SONIC SELECT
BOOK ONE

SONIC SELECT™

BOOK ONE

featuring the talents of

IAN FLYNN, MIKE KANTEROVICH, MIKE GALLAGHER, ART MAWHINNEY, RICH KOSLOWSKI, FREDDY MENDEZ, HARVEY MERCADOOCASIO, SCOTT SHAW, KEN PENDERS, MINDY EISMAN, BARRY GROSSMAN, DAVE MANAK, JON D'AGOSTINO, BILL YOSHIDA & PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE

cover by

PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE

SPECIAL THANKS TO ANTHONY GACCIONE & CINDY CHAU @ SEGA LICENSING

ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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ISBN: 978-1-936975-32-7

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BOOK ONE

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“The Quest” (In Your Face):
Princess Sally discovers a map left to her by her late mentor, and journeys with the Freedom Fighters to the dangerous Forbidden Zone to seek out the treasure!

“The Mirror Zone” (In Your Face):
Sonic and Tails follow one of Robotnik’s Swatbots into the Mirror Zone, a place where everything is flipped backwards!

“Tails’ Tallest Tale” (In Your Face):
In his second solo story, Tails is forced to prove himself to a local “Sonic Fan Club” when Robotnik decides to crash the party!

“Panic in the Sky” (Sonic & Knuckles):
When the Floating Island runs off course, it’s up to Sonic and Tails to investigate the problem. And that problem’s name is Robotnik!

“Fire Drill” (Sonic & Knuckles):
Knuckles’ first solo story! When an unknown stranger creates a disturbance on the Floating Island, Knuckles explores his flying home to find the culprit.

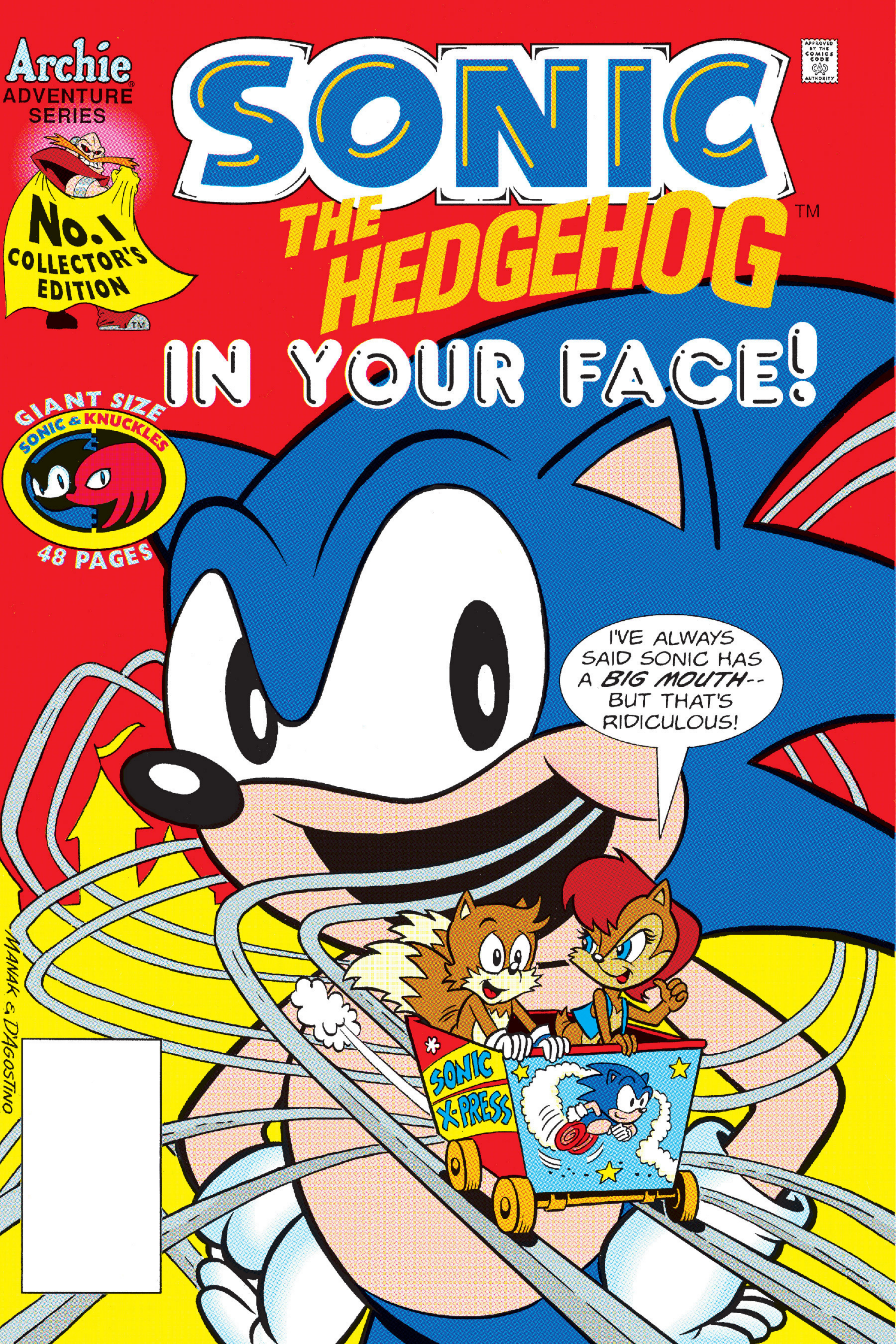
“Lord of the Floating Island” (Sonic & Knuckles):
Knuckles proves his worth yet again when a young kangaroo turns up lost, and in the middle of a terrible wind storm. Strange things are afoot on the Floating Island!

“T-T-Triple T-T-Trouble” (Triple Trouble):
Infamous bounty hunter Nack the Weasel makes his grand debut when he teams up with Dr. Robotnik to locate two halves of a chaos emerald. Sonic must ally with Knuckles to keep the demonic despot from wiping the Floating Island off the map!

“Submersible Rehearsal” (Triple Trouble):
Our furry fox friend navigates his new submarine, the “Sea Fox”, into murky waters! It’s an epic undersea battle against one of Robotnik’s slippery sub-bosses: Octobot!

“First Contact” (Triple Trouble):
A stranger named “Archimedes” contacts Knuckles, and Knuckles is determined to learn whether he is friend or foe!

“The Substitute Freedom Fighters” (Sonic Live!):
Robotnik has finally succeeded in capturing the Freedom Fighters, and it seems the day will be his! That is, until Sally’s trainees team up to rescue them!


Archie ADVENTURE SERIES
No. 1 COLLECTOR'S EDITION
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
IN YOUR FACE!
GIANT SIZE SONIC & KNUCKLES 48 PAGES
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
I'VE ALWAYS SAID SONIC HAS A BIG MOUTH-- BUT THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
SONIC X-PRESS
MANAK & D'AGOSTINO

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LETTERING: MINDY EISMAN

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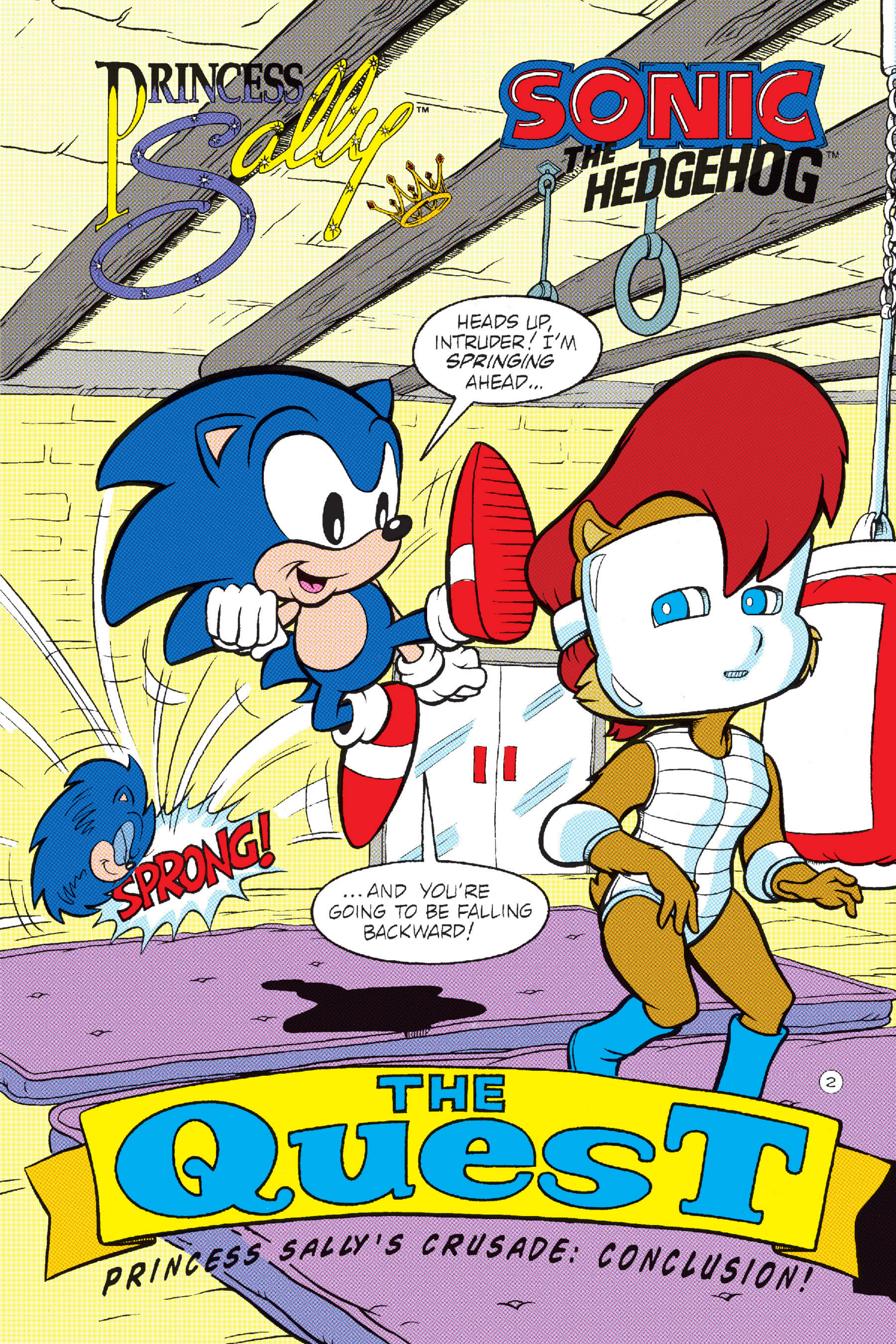
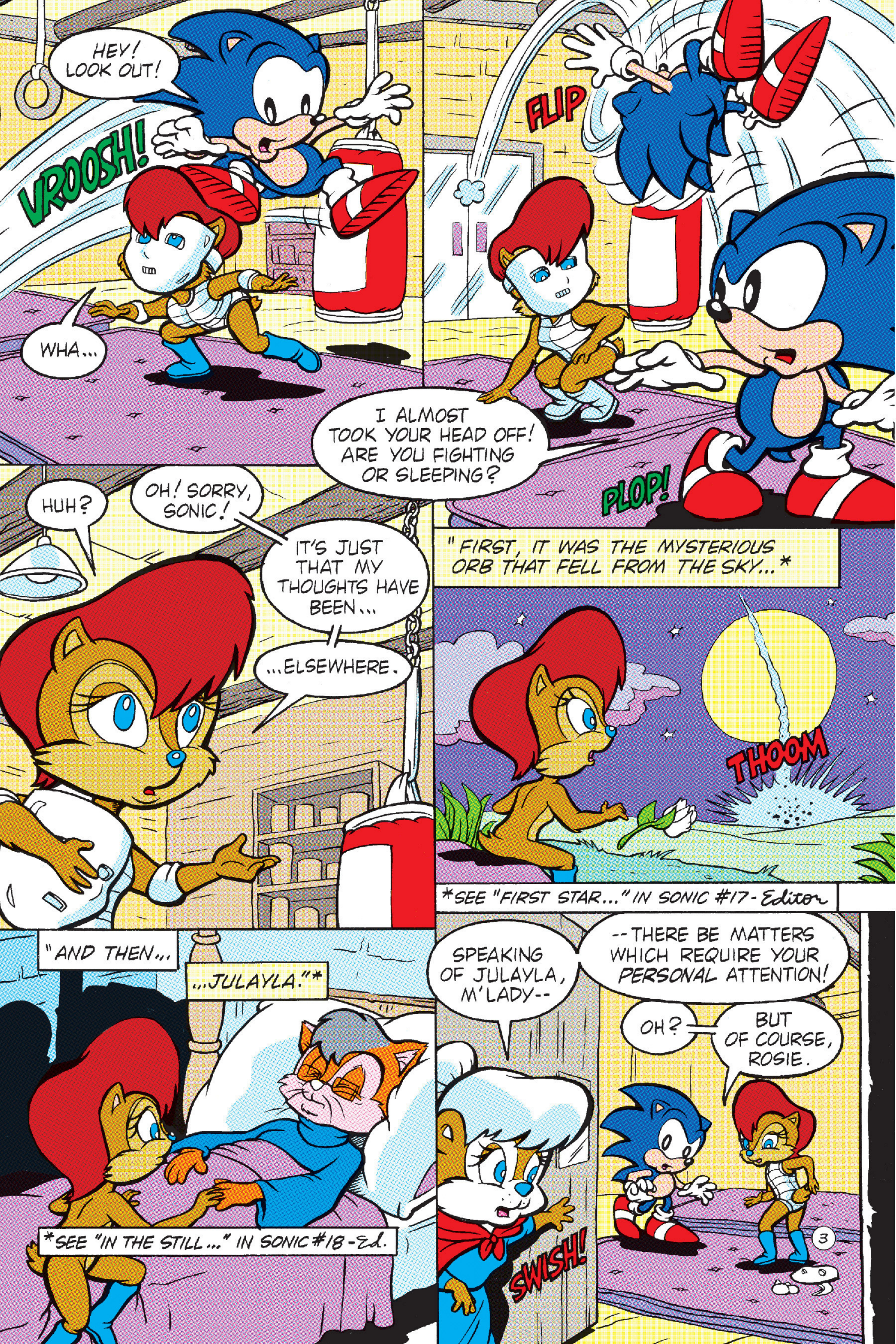
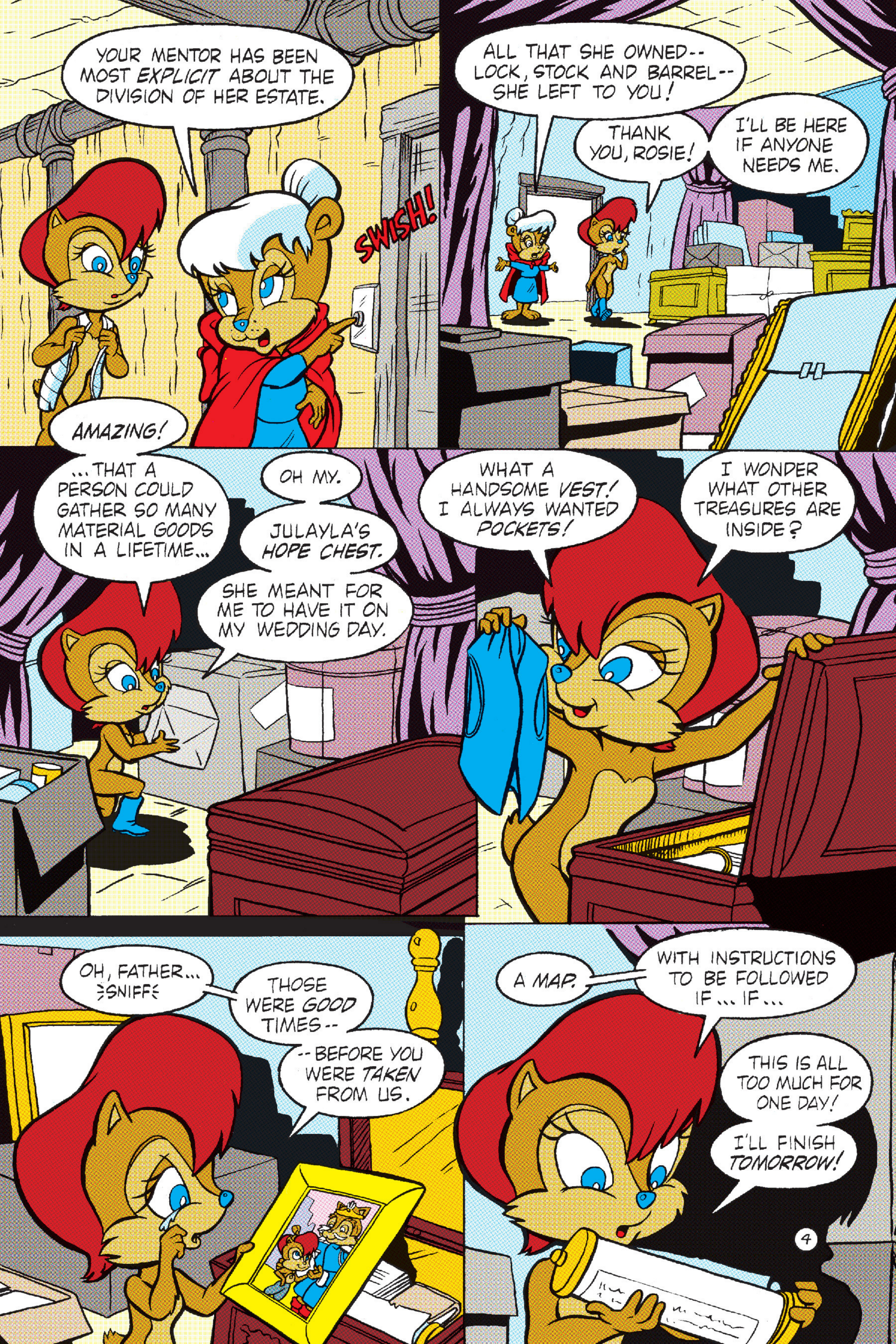
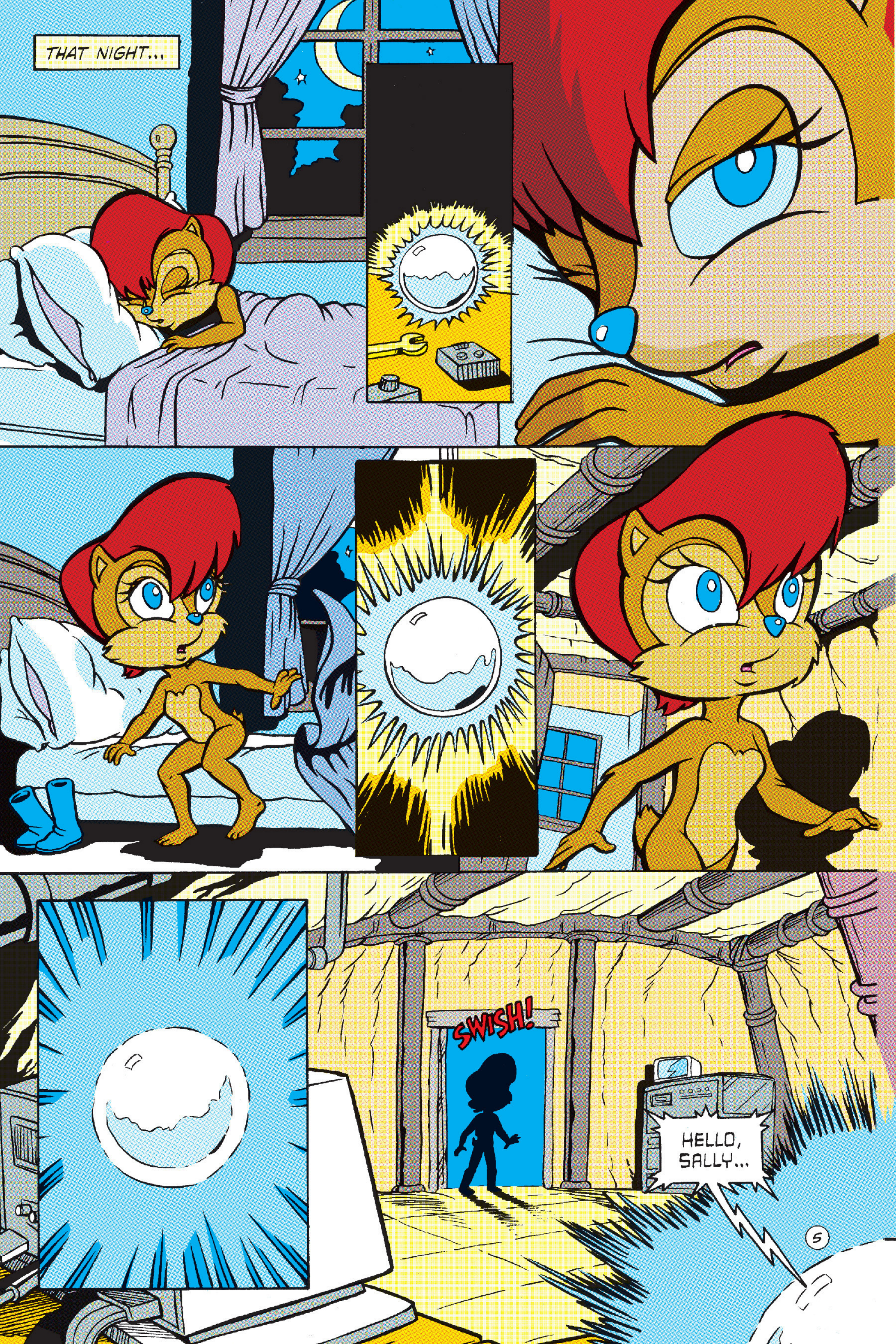
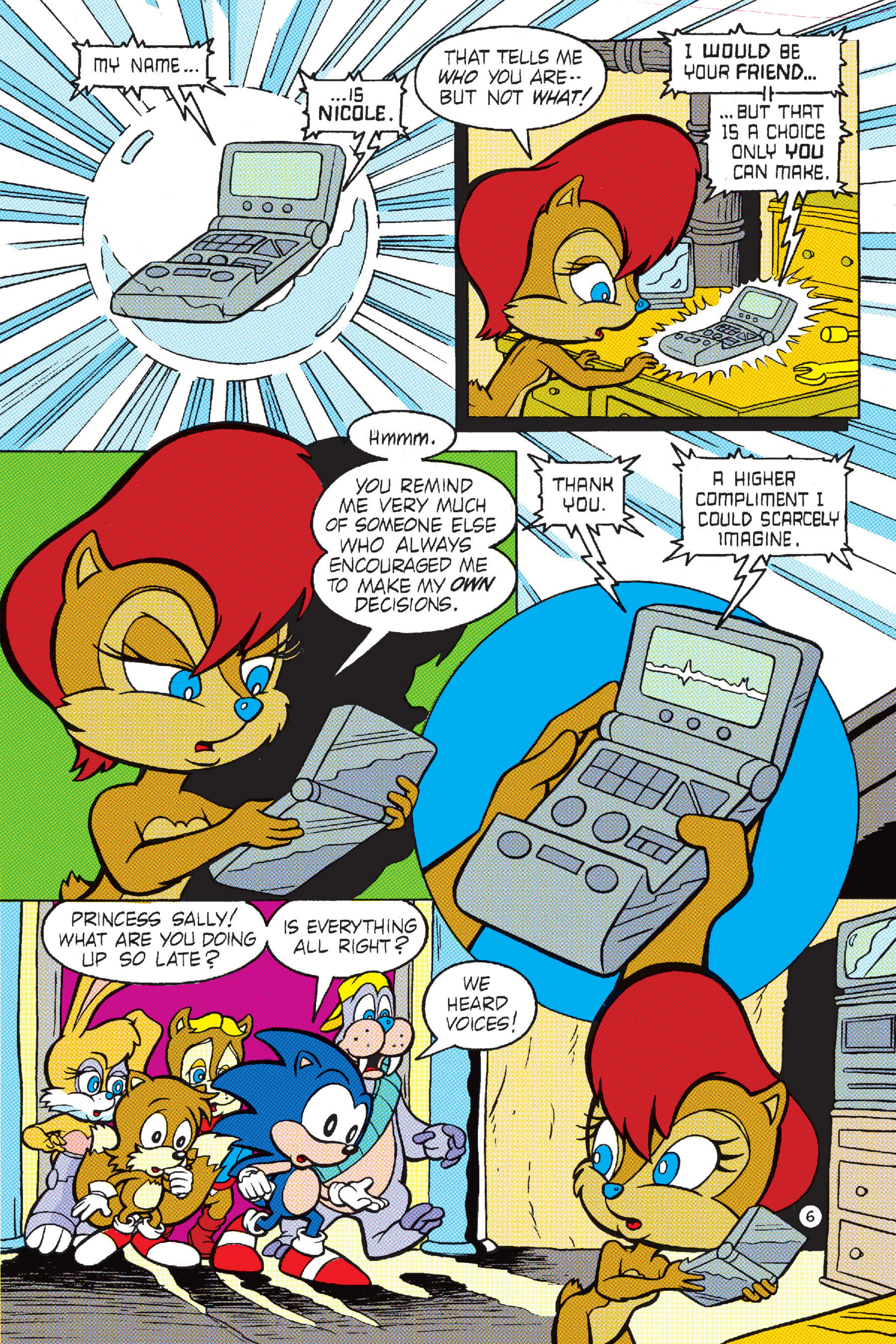
SPECIAL THANKS TO BOB HARRIS, CYNTHIA WILKES AND JENNIFER HUNN OF SEGA OF AMERICA.

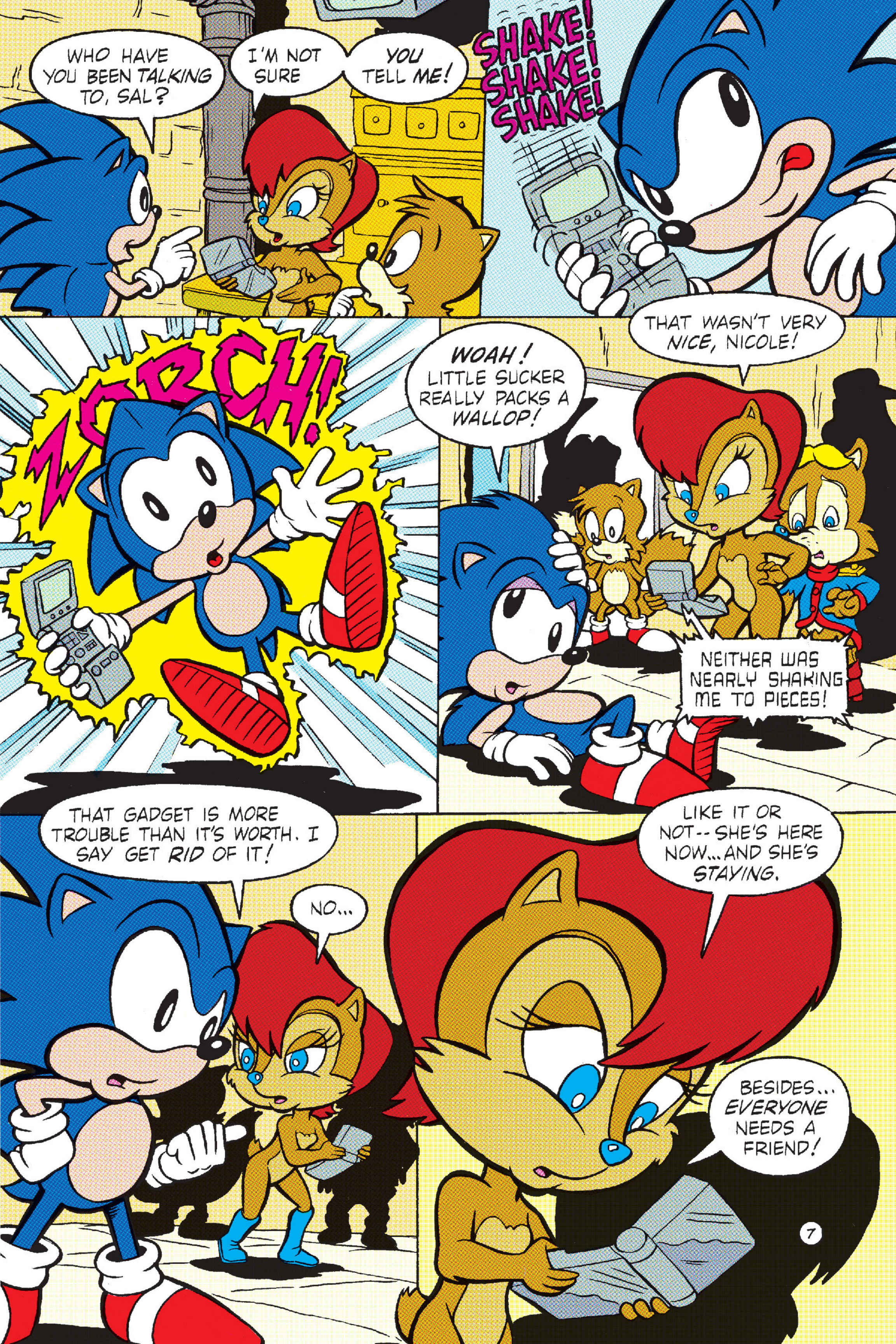

Princess Sally™
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
HEADS UP, INTRUDER! I'M SPRINGING AHEAD...
SPRONG!
...AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE FALLING BACKWARD!
THE QuesT
PRINCESS SALLY'S CRUSADE: CONCLUSION!

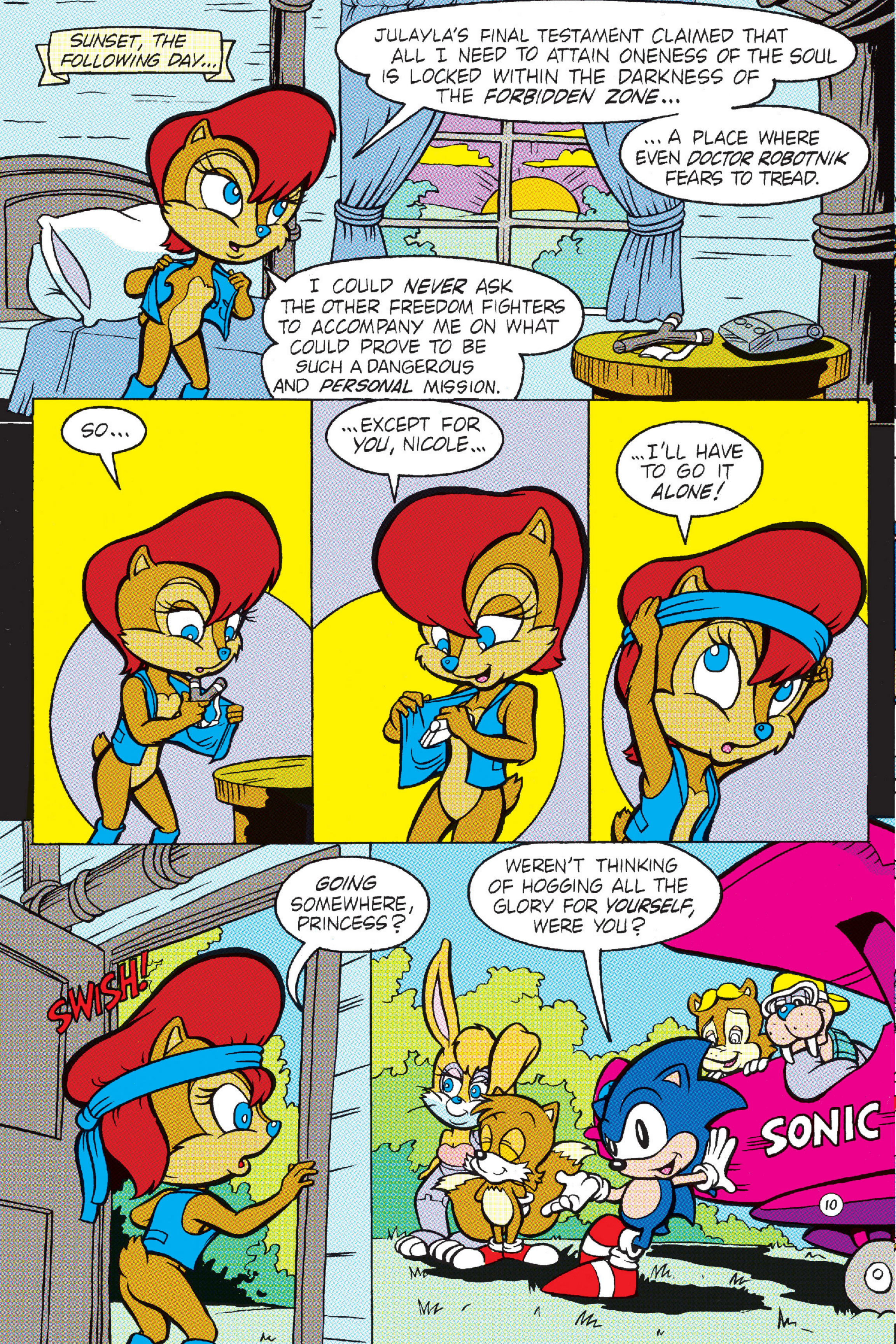

HEY! LOOK OUT!
VROOSH!
WHA...
FLIP
I ALMOST TOOK YOUR HEAD OFF! ARE YOU FIGHTING OR SLEEPING?
PLOP!
HUH?
OH! SORRY, SONIC!
IT'S JUST THAT MY THOUGHTS HAVE BEEN...
...ELSEWHERE.
"FIRST, IT WAS THE MYSTERIOUS ORB THAT FELL FROM THE SKY...*
THOOM
*SEE "FIRST STAR..." IN SONIC #17 - Editor
"AND THEN...
...JULAYLA."*
*SEE "IN THE STILL..." IN SONIC #18 - Ed.
SPEAKING OF JULAYLA, M'LADY--
--THERE BE MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE YOUR *PERSONAL* ATTENTION!
OH?
BUT OF COURSE, ROSIE.
SWISH!
3


YOUR MENTOR HAS BEEN MOST *EXPLICIT* ABOUT THE DIVISION OF HER ESTATE.
SWISH!
AMAZING!
ALL THAT SHE OWNED-- LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL-- SHE LEFT TO YOU!
THANK YOU, ROSIE!
I'LL BE HERE IF ANYONE NEEDS ME.
...THAT A PERSON COULD GATHER SO MANY MATERIAL GOODS IN A LIFETIME...
OH MY.
JULAYLA'S *HOPE CHEST.*
SHE MEANT FOR ME TO HAVE IT ON MY WEDDING DAY.
WHAT A HANDSOME *VEST!* I ALWAYS WANTED *POCKETS!*
I WONDER WHAT OTHER TREASURES ARE INSIDE?
OH, FATHER... ⟩SNIFF⟨
THOSE WERE *GOOD* TIMES--
--BEFORE YOU WERE *TAKEN* FROM US.
A *MAP.*
WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED IF... IF...
THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH FOR ONE DAY!
I'LL FINISH *TOMORROW!*


THAT NIGHT...
SWISH!
HELLO, SALLY...


MY NAME...
...IS NICOLE.
THAT TELLS ME WHO YOU ARE-- BUT NOT WHAT!
I WOULD BE YOUR FRIEND...
...BUT THAT IS A CHOICE ONLY YOU CAN MAKE.
Hmmm.
YOU REMIND ME VERY MUCH OF SOMEONE ELSE WHO ALWAYS ENCOURAGED ME TO MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS.
THANK YOU.
A HIGHER COMPLIMENT I COULD SCARCELY IMAGINE.
PRINCESS SALLY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP SO LATE?
IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
WE HEARD VOICES!


WHO HAVE YOU BEEN *TALKING* TO, SAL?
I'M NOT SURE
YOU TELL *ME*!
SHAKE! SHAKE! SHAKE!
ZORCH!
WOAH! LITTLE SUCKER REALLY PACKS A *WALLOP*!
THAT WASN'T VERY *NICE*, NICOLE!
NEITHER WAS NEARLY SHAKING ME TO PIECES!
THAT GADGET IS MORE TROUBLE THAN IT'S WORTH. I SAY GET *RID* OF IT!
NO...
LIKE IT OR NOT-- SHE'S HERE NOW... AND SHE'S *STAYING*.
BESIDES... *EVERYONE* NEEDS A FRIEND!


SUNSET, THE FOLLOWING DAY...
JULAYLA'S FINAL TESTAMENT CLAIMED THAT ALL I NEED TO ATTAIN ONENESS OF THE SOUL IS LOCKED WITHIN THE DARKNESS OF THE *FORBIDDEN ZONE*...
... A PLACE WHERE EVEN *DOCTOR ROBOTNIK* FEARS TO TREAD.
I COULD *NEVER* ASK THE OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO ACCOMPANY ME ON WHAT COULD PROVE TO BE SUCH A DANGEROUS AND *PERSONAL* MISSION.
SO...
...EXCEPT FOR *YOU*, NICOLE...
...I'LL HAVE TO GO IT *ALONE*!
SWISH!
GOING SOMEWHERE, PRINCESS?
WEREN'T THINKING OF HOGGING ALL THE GLORY FOR *YOURSELF*, WERE YOU?
SONIC
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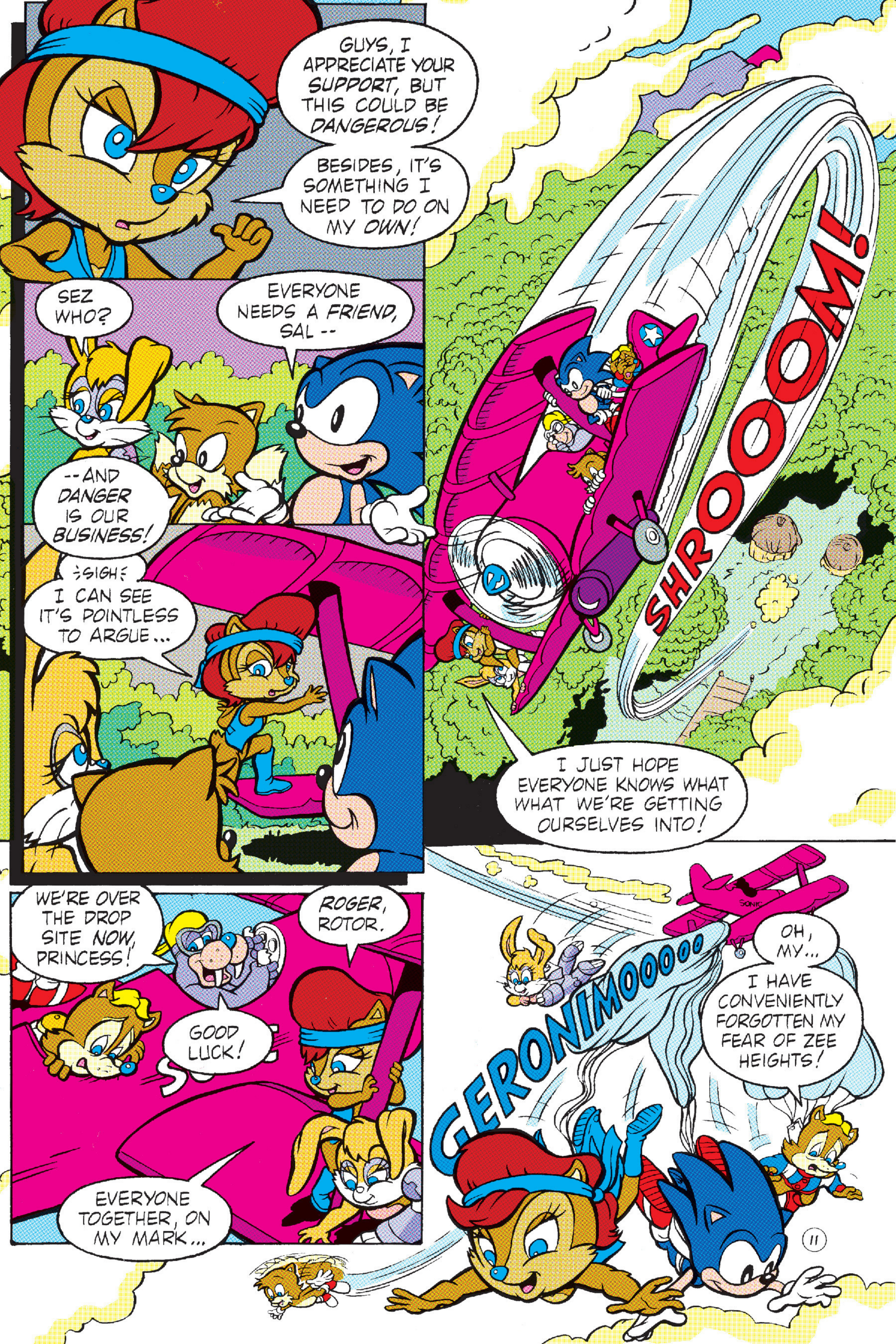
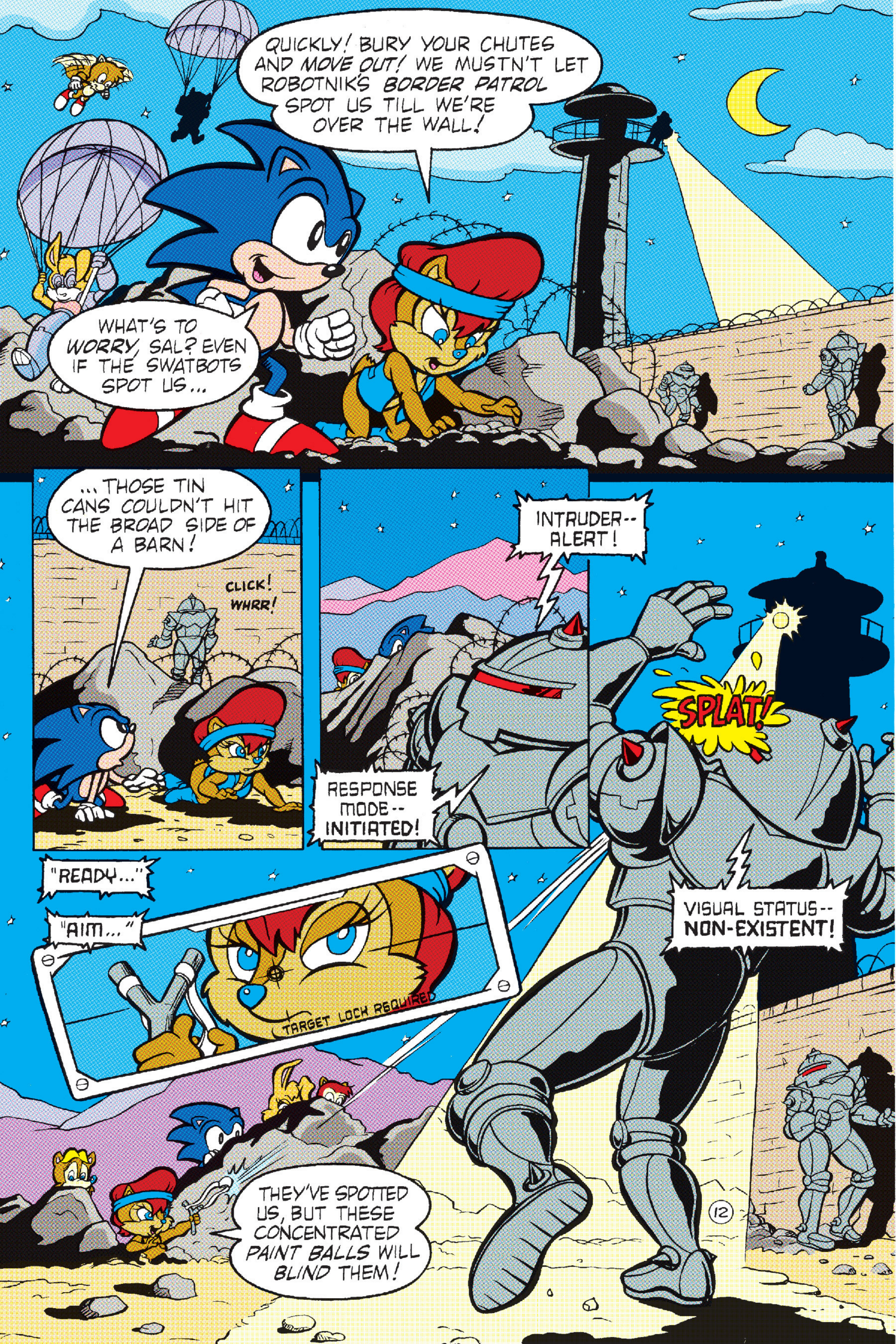

GUYS, I APPRECIATE YOUR *SUPPORT*, BUT THIS COULD BE *DANGEROUS*!
BESIDES, IT'S SOMETHING I NEED TO DO ON MY *OWN*!
SEZ WHO?
EVERYONE NEEDS A *FRIEND*, SAL --
--AND *DANGER* IS OUR *BUSINESS*!
⁝SIGH⁝ I CAN SEE IT'S POINTLESS TO ARGUE...
SHROOOOM!
I JUST HOPE EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT WHAT WE'RE GETTING OURSELVES INTO!
WE'RE OVER THE DROP SITE *NOW*, PRINCESS!
ROGER, ROTOR.
GOOD LUCK!
EVERYONE TOGETHER, ON MY MARK...
SONIC
GERONIMOOOOO
OH, MY...
I HAVE CONVENIENTLY FORGOTTEN MY FEAR OF ZEE HEIGHTS!


QUICKLY! BURY YOUR CHUTES AND *MOVE OUT!* WE MUSTN'T LET ROBOTNIK'S *BORDER PATROL* SPOT US TILL WE'RE OVER THE WALL!
WHAT'S TO *WORRY*, SAL? EVEN IF THE SWATBOTS SPOT US...
...THOSE TIN CANS COULDN'T HIT THE BROAD SIDE OF A BARN!
CLICK! WHRR!
INTRUDER-- ALERT!
RESPONSE MODE-- **INITIATED!**
SPLAT!
"READY..."
"AIM..."
TARGET LOCK REQUIRED
VISUAL STATUS-- **NON-EXISTENT!**
THEY'VE SPOTTED US, BUT THESE CONCENTRATED *PAINT BALLS* WILL *BLIND* THEM!
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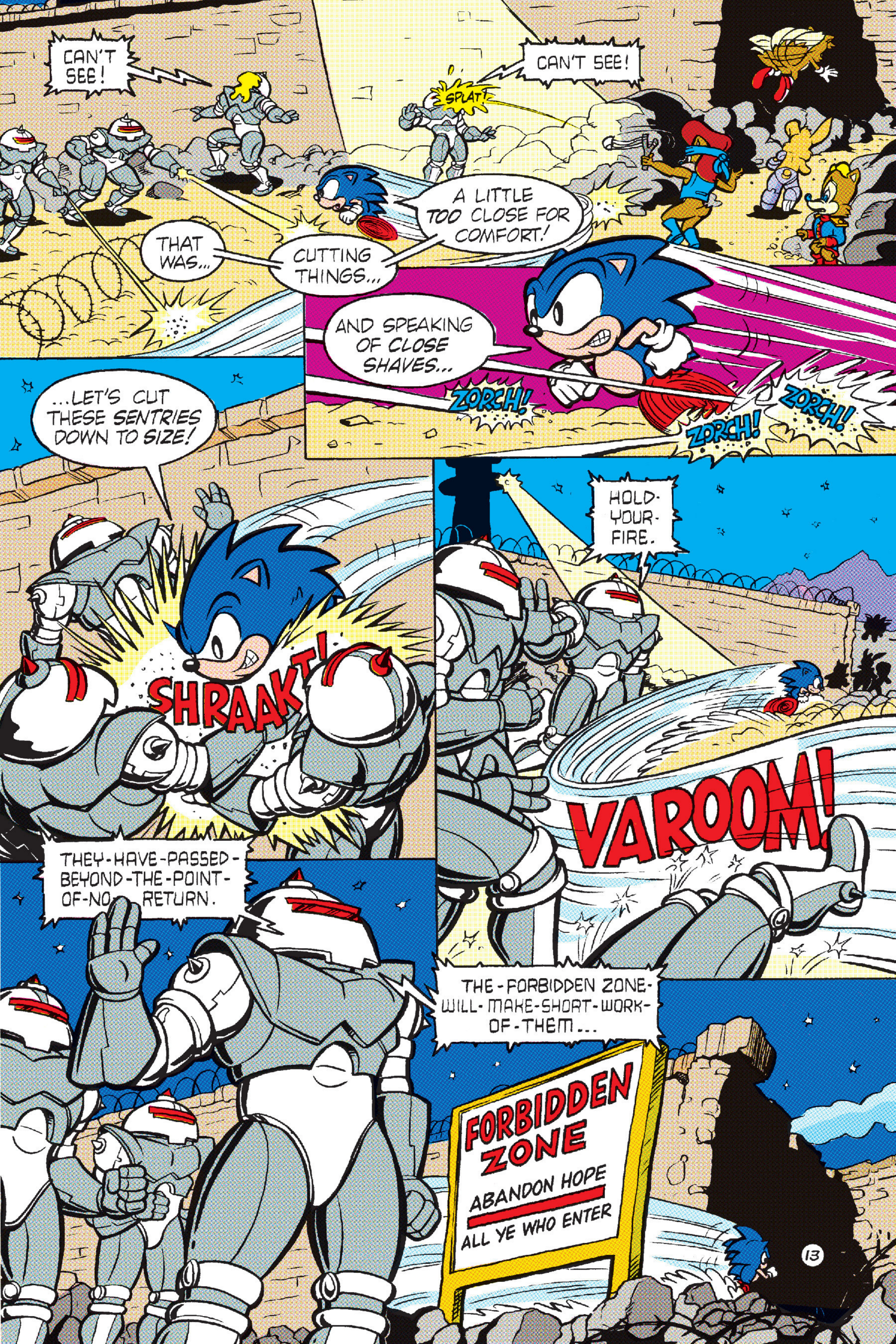
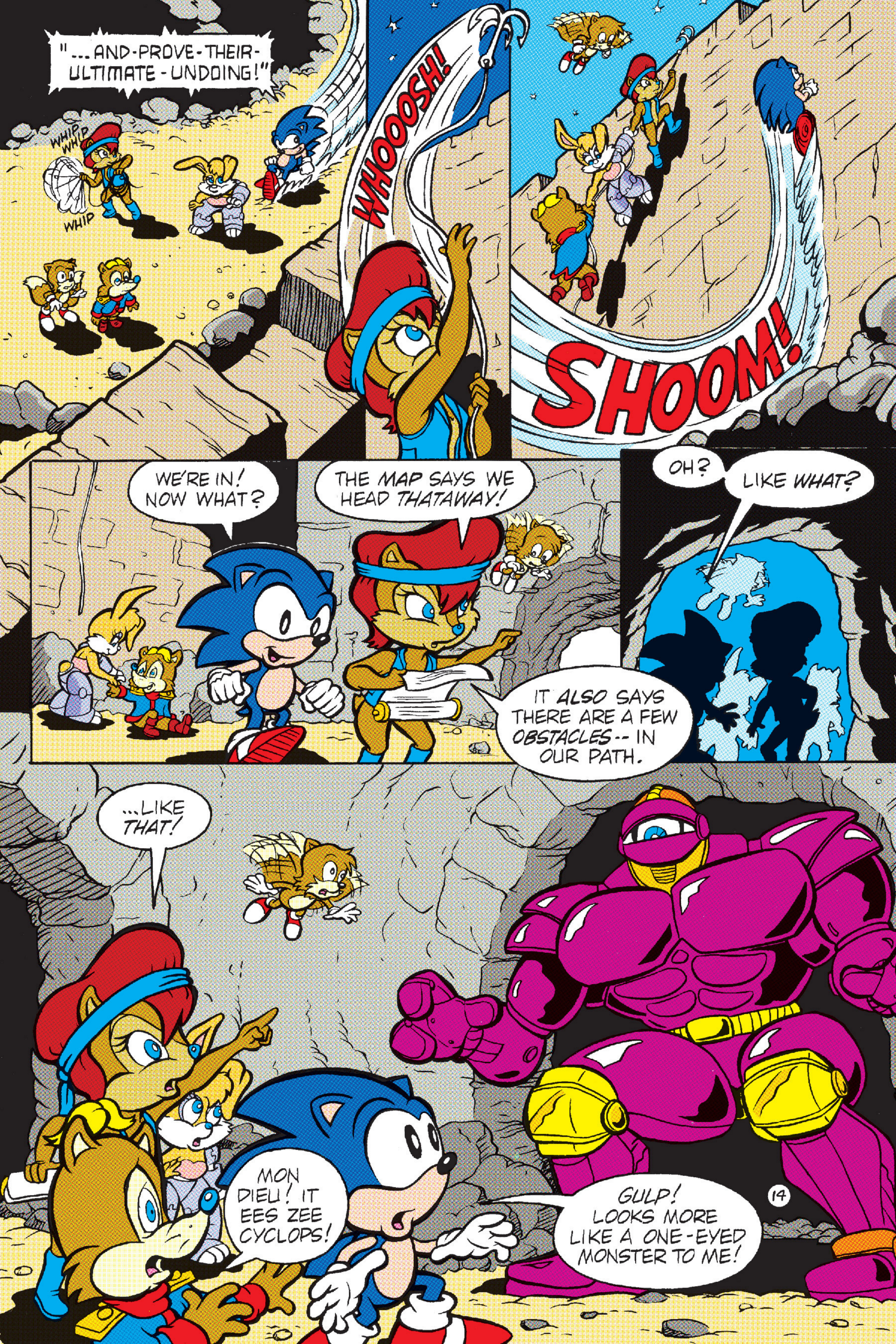
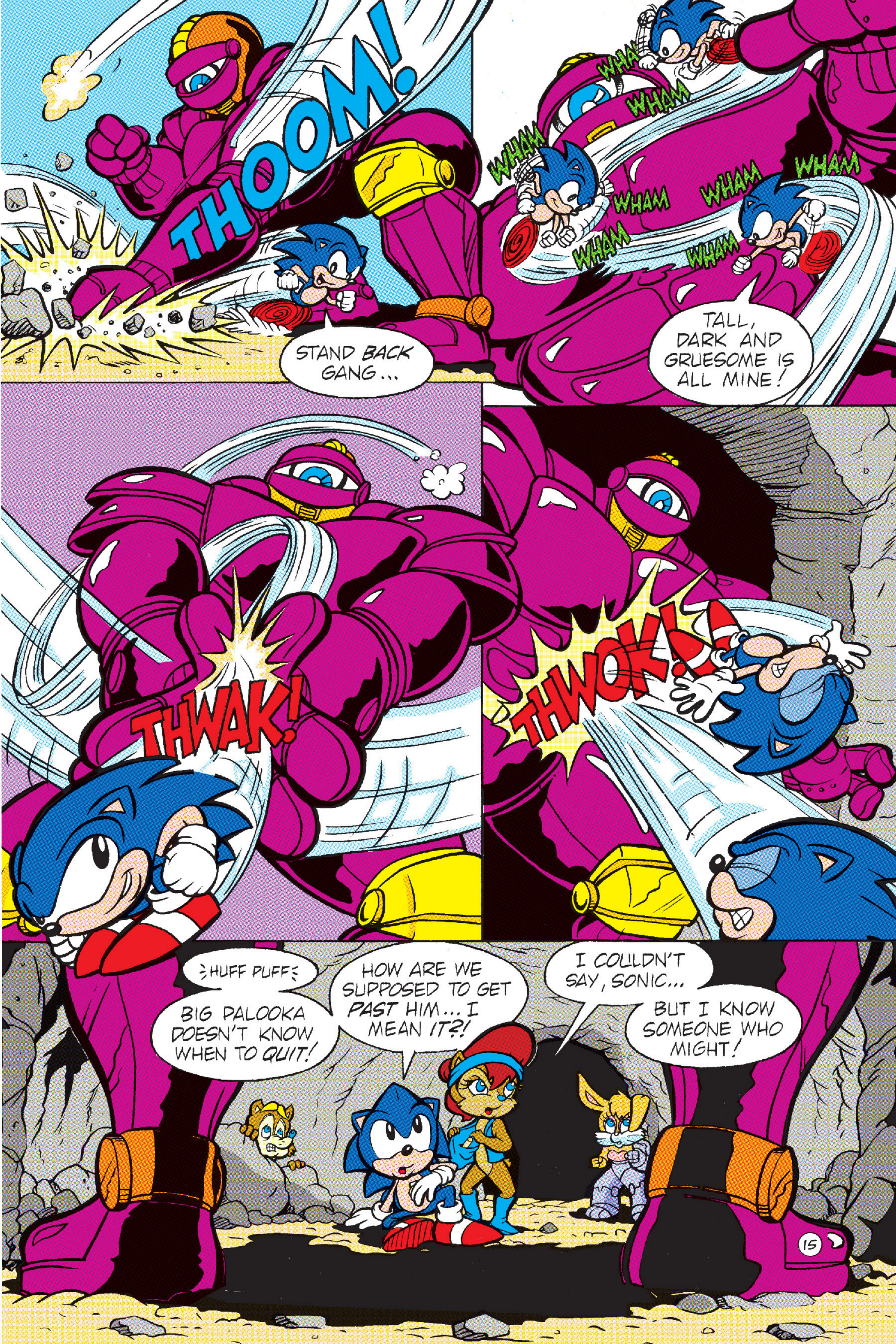
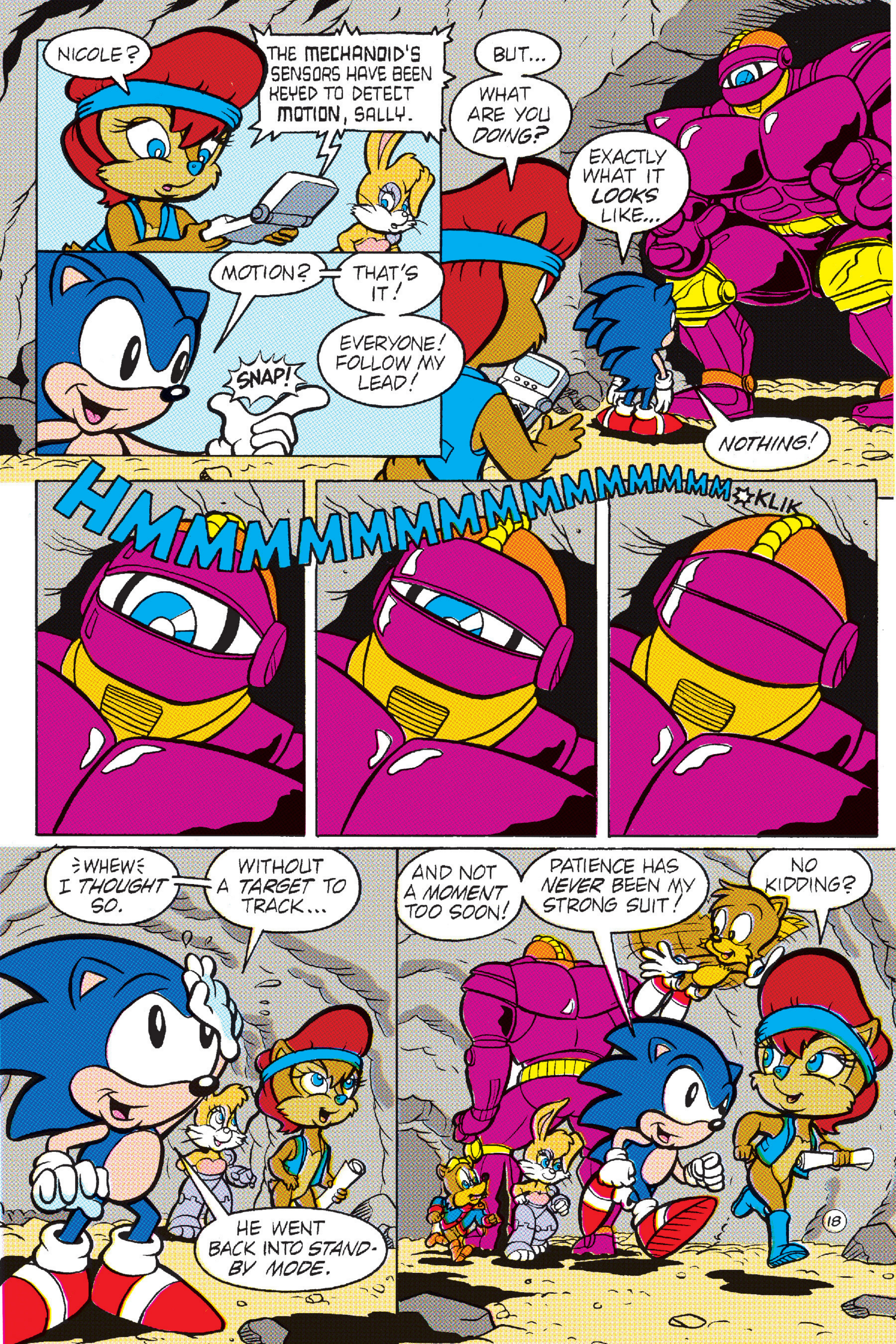
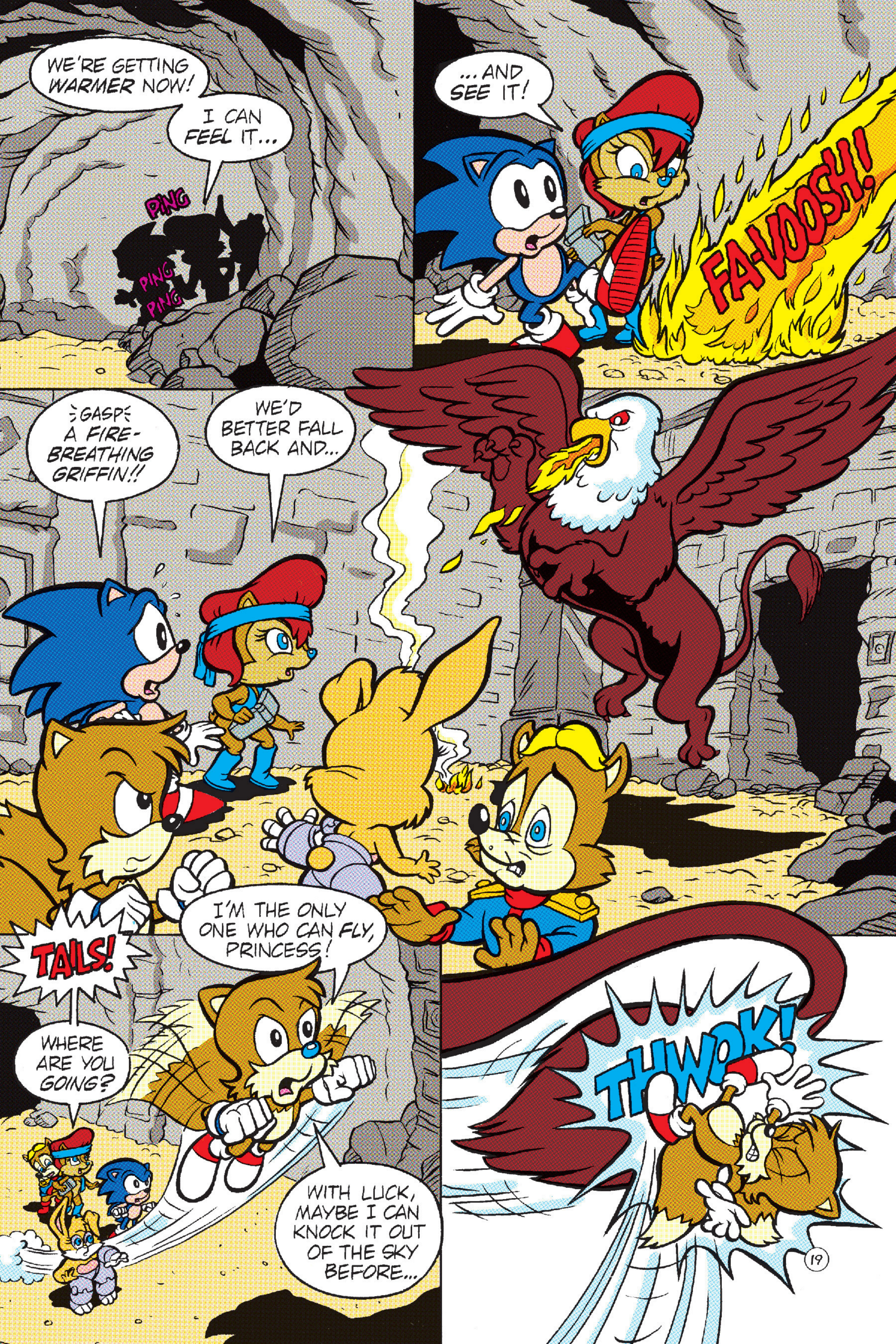
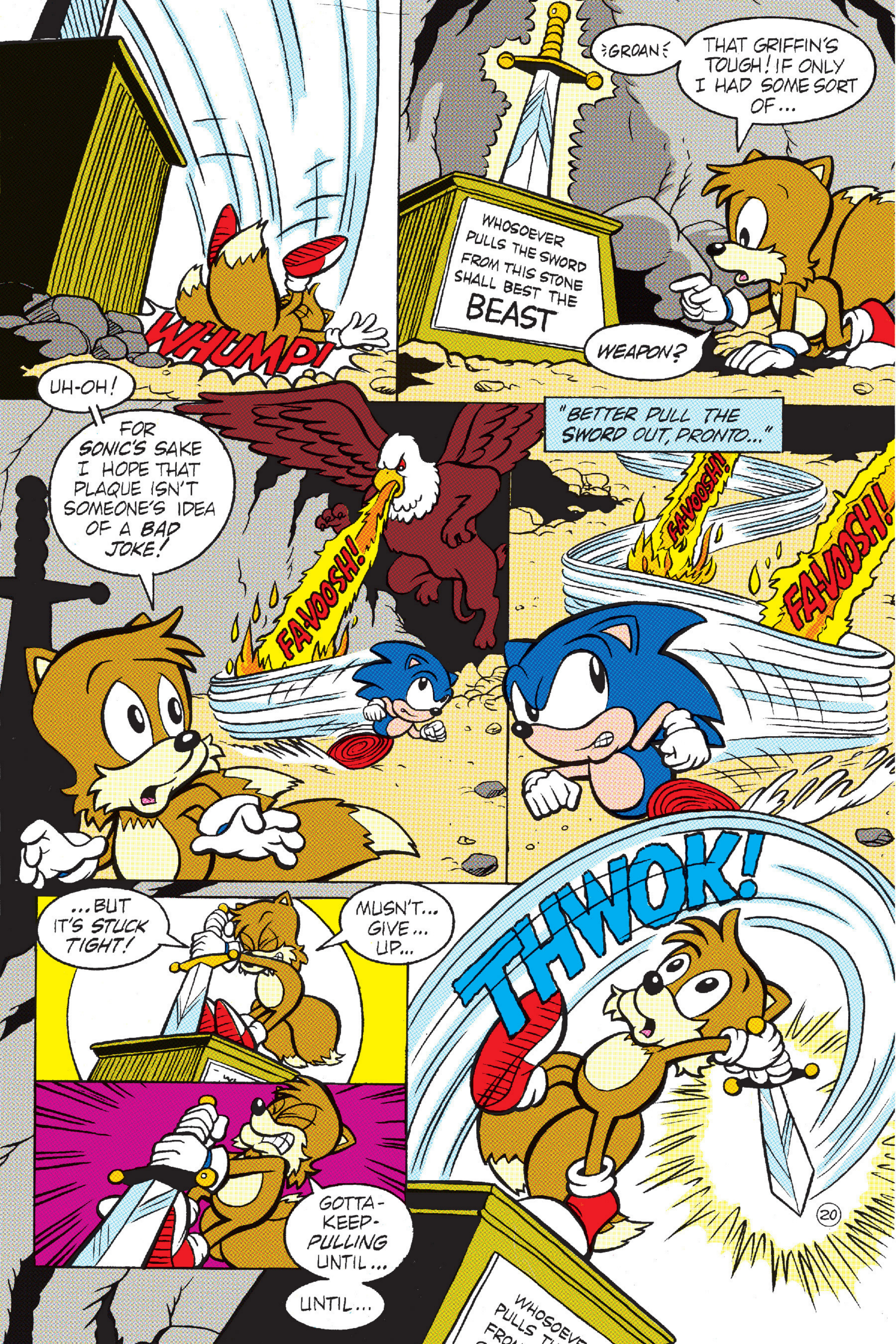

CAN'T SEE!
CAN'T SEE!
SPLAT!
THAT WAS...
CUTTING THINGS...
A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!
AND SPEAKING OF CLOSE SHAVES...
ZORCH!
ZORCH!
ZORCH!
...LET'S CUT THESE SENTRIES DOWN TO SIZE!
SHRAAKT!
HOLD-YOUR-FIRE.
VAROOM!
THEY-HAVE-PASSED-BEYOND-THE-POINT-OF-NO-RETURN.
THE-FORBIDDEN ZONE-WILL-MAKE-SHORT-WORK-OF-THEM...
FORBIDDEN ZONE
ABANDON HOPE
ALL YE WHO ENTER

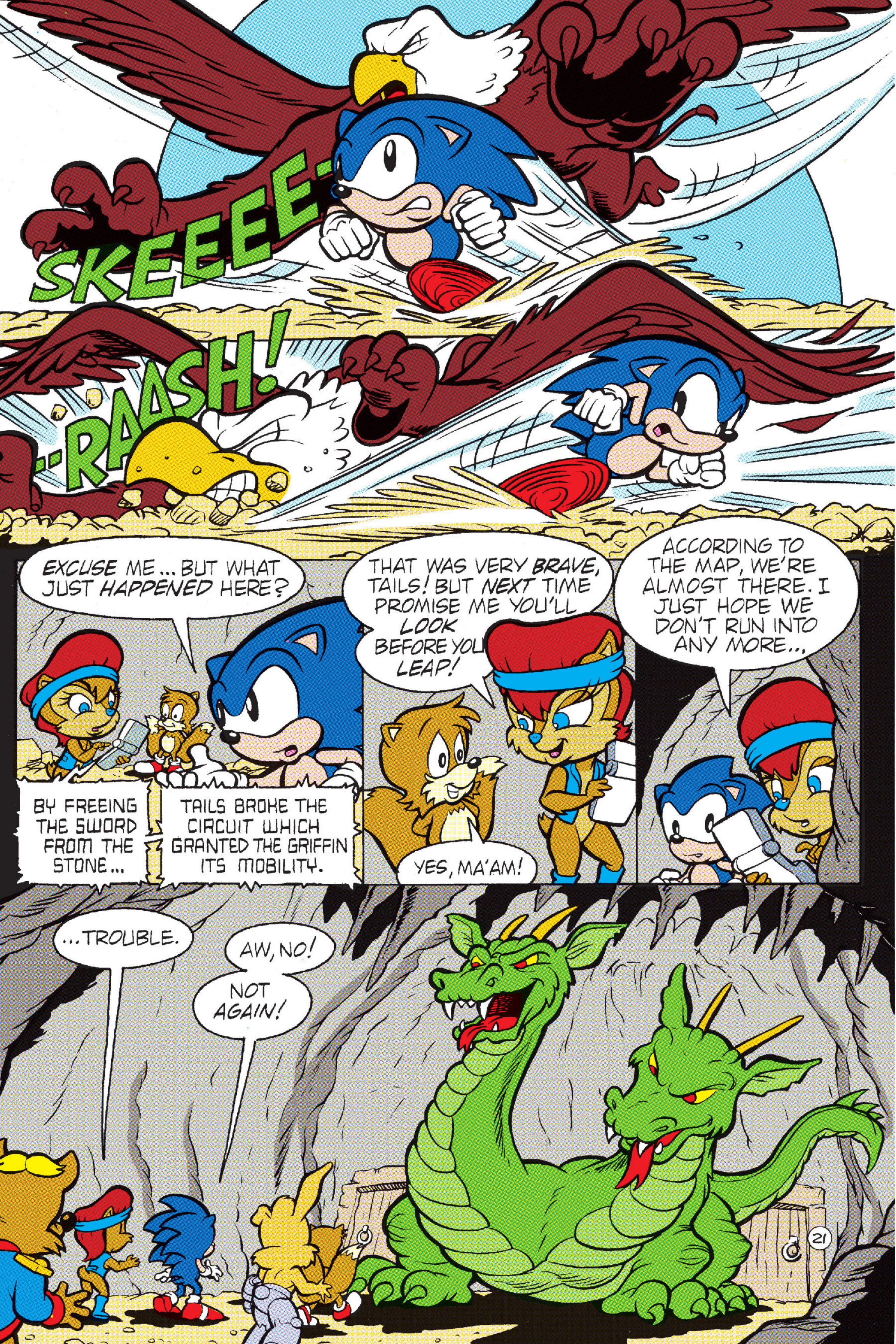

"...AND-PROVE-THEIR-ULTIMATE-UNDOING!"
WHIP WHIP
WHIP
WHOOOSH!
SHOOM!
WE'RE IN! NOW WHAT?
THE *MAP* SAYS WE HEAD *THATAWAY!*
IT *ALSO* SAYS THERE ARE A FEW *OBSTACLES* -- IN OUR PATH.
OH?
LIKE *WHAT?*
...LIKE *THAT!*
MON DIEU! IT EES ZEE CYCLOPS!
GULP! LOOKS MORE LIKE A ONE-EYED MONSTER TO ME!

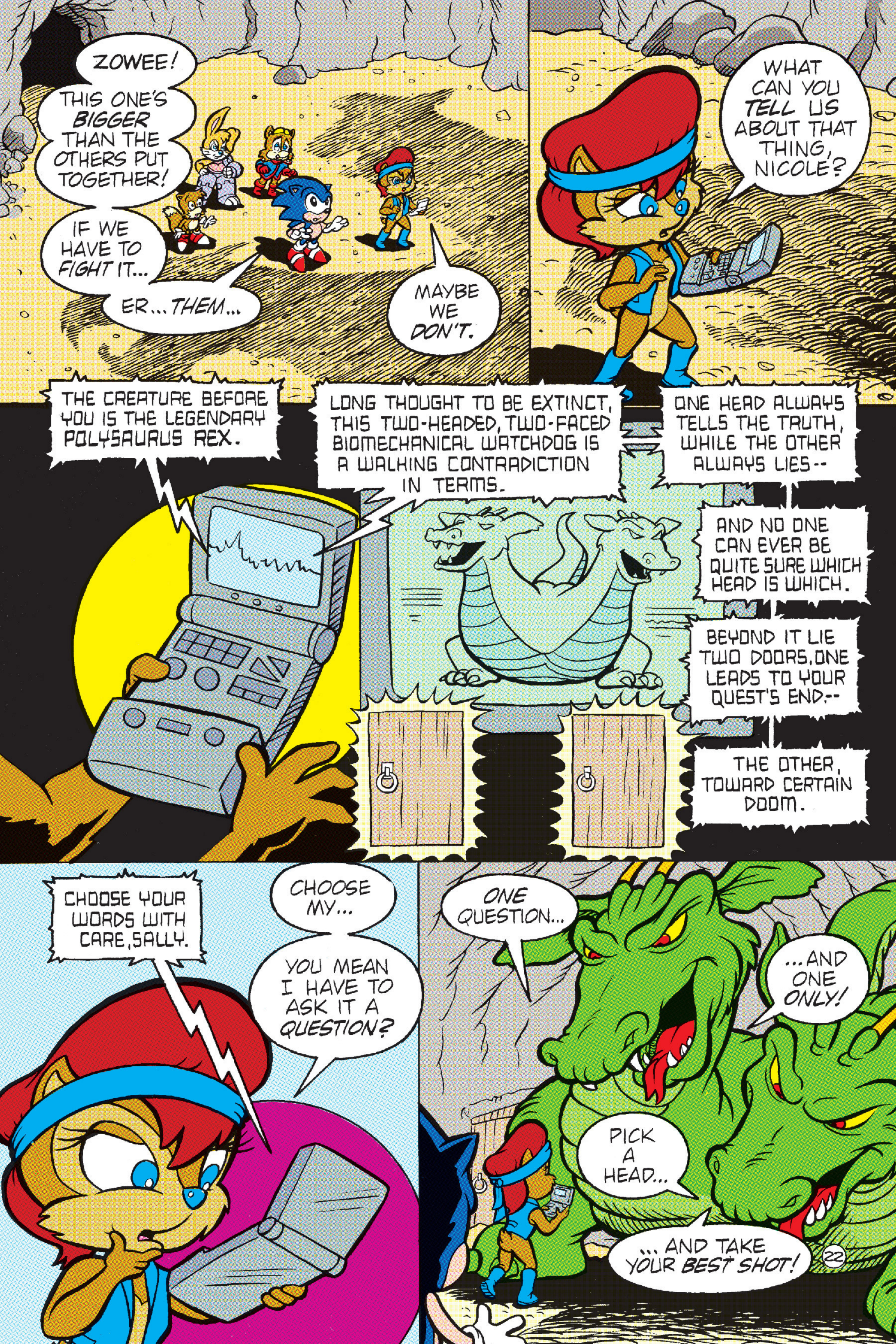

THOOM!
STAND *BACK* GANG...
WHA
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
TALL, DARK AND GRUESOME IS ALL MINE!
THWAK!
THWOK!
HUFF PUFF
BIG PALOOKA DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO *QUIT*!
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET *PAST* HIM... I MEAN *IT*?!
I COULDN'T SAY, SONIC...
BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT!

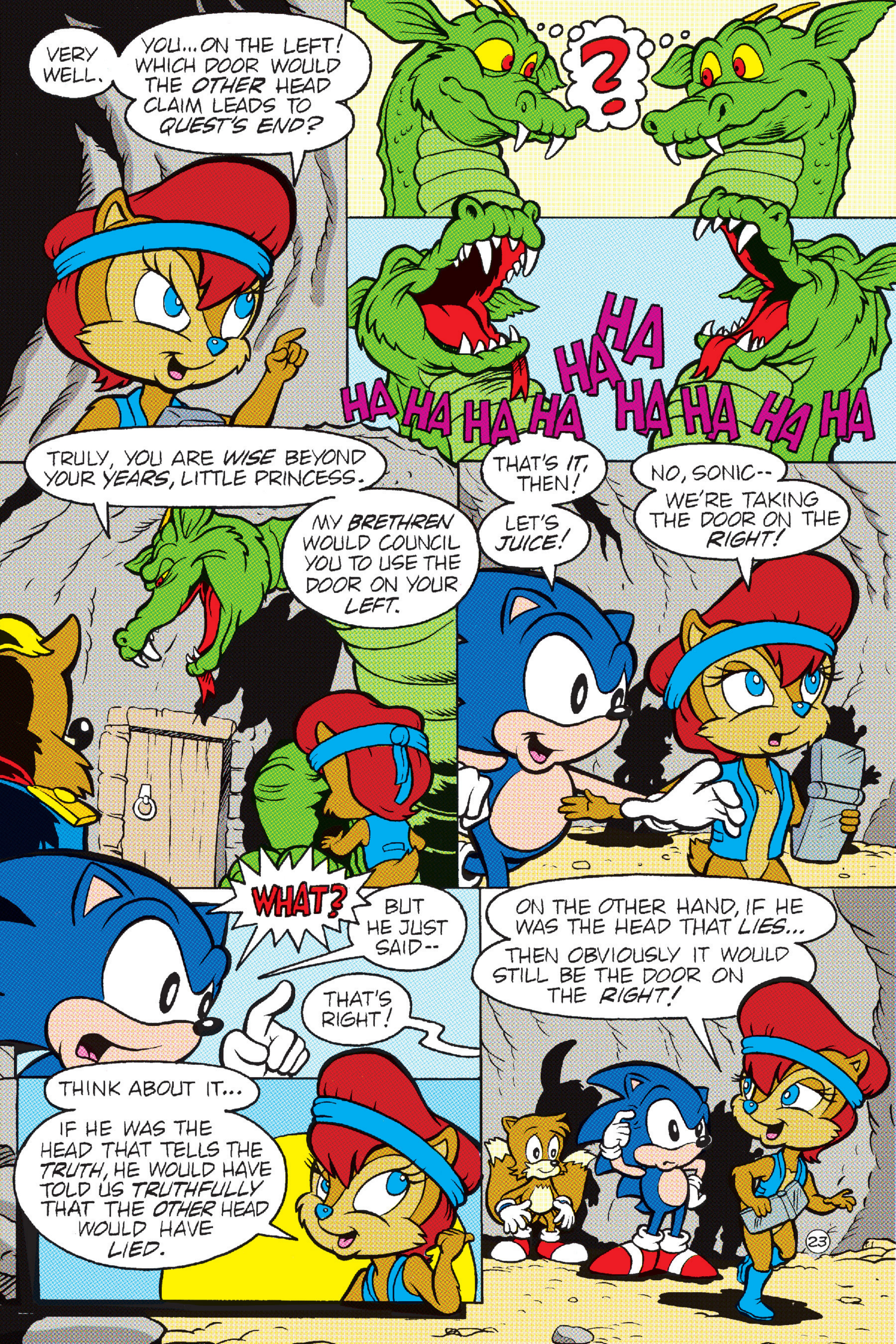

NICOLE?
THE MECHANOID'S SENSORS HAVE BEEN KEYED TO DETECT MOTION, SALLY.
MOTION?
THAT'S IT!
SNAP!
EVERYONE! FOLLOW MY LEAD!
BUT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
EXACTLY WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE...
NOTHING!
HMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
KLIK
WHEW I THOUGHT SO.
WITHOUT A TARGET TO TRACK...
HE WENT BACK INTO STAND-BY MODE.
AND NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!
PATIENCE HAS NEVER BEEN MY STRONG SUIT!
NO KIDDING?


WE'RE GETTING *WARMER* NOW!
I CAN *FEEL* IT...
PING
PING
PING
...AND *SEE* IT!
FA-VOOSH!
GASP A *FIRE-BREATHING GRIFFIN!!*
WE'D BETTER FALL BACK AND...
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN *FLY*, PRINCESS!
TAILS!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WITH LUCK, MAYBE I CAN KNOCK IT OUT OF THE SKY BEFORE...
THWOK!


WHUMP!
GROAN
THAT GRIFFIN'S TOUGH! IF ONLY I HAD SOME SORT OF...
WHOSOEVER PULLS THE SWORD FROM THIS STONE SHALL BEST THE BEAST
WEAPON?
UH-OH!
FOR SONIC'S SAKE I HOPE THAT PLAQUE ISN'T SOMEONE'S IDEA OF A BAD JOKE!
FA-VOOSH!
"BETTER PULL THE SWORD OUT, PRONTO..."
FA-VOOSH!
FA-VOOSH!
...BUT IT'S STUCK TIGHT!
MUSN'T... GIVE... UP...
GOTTA-KEEP-PULLING UNTIL...
UNTIL...
THWOK!
WHOSOEVER PULLS TH FROM


SKEEEE-
-RAASH!
EXCUSE ME ... BUT WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE?
BY FREEING THE SWORD FROM THE STONE...
TAILS BROKE THE CIRCUIT WHICH GRANTED THE GRIFFIN ITS MOBILITY.
THAT WAS VERY BRAVE, TAILS! BUT NEXT TIME PROMISE ME YOU'LL LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP!
YES, MA'AM!
ACCORDING TO THE MAP, WE'RE ALMOST THERE. I JUST HOPE WE DON'T RUN INTO ANY MORE...
...TROUBLE.
AW, NO!
NOT AGAIN!


ZOWEE!
THIS ONE'S *BIGGER* THAN THE OTHERS PUT TOGETHER!
IF WE HAVE TO *FIGHT* IT...
ER... *THEM*...
MAYBE WE *DON'T*.
WHAT CAN YOU *TELL* US ABOUT THAT THING, NICOLE?
THE CREATURE BEFORE YOU IS THE LEGENDARY POLYSAURUS REX.
LONG THOUGHT TO BE EXTINCT, THIS TWO-HEADED, TWO-FACED BIOMECHANICAL WATCHDOG IS A WALKING CONTRADICTION IN TERMS.
ONE HEAD ALWAYS TELLS THE TRUTH, WHILE THE OTHER ALWAYS LIES--
AND NO ONE CAN EVER BE QUITE SURE WHICH HEAD IS WHICH.
BEYOND IT LIE TWO DOORS. ONE LEADS TO YOUR QUEST'S END.--
THE OTHER, TOWARD CERTAIN DOOM.
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS WITH CARE, SALLY.
CHOOSE MY...
YOU MEAN I HAVE TO ASK IT A *QUESTION?*
ONE QUESTION...
...AND ONE *ONLY!*
PICK A HEAD...
...AND TAKE YOUR *BEST SHOT!*


VERY WELL.
YOU...ON THE LEFT! WHICH DOOR WOULD THE *OTHER* HEAD CLAIM LEADS TO *QUEST'S END?*
?
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
TRULY, YOU ARE *WISE* BEYOND YOUR *YEARS,* LITTLE PRINCESS.
MY *BRETHREN* WOULD COUNCIL YOU TO USE THE DOOR ON YOUR *LEFT.*
THAT'S *IT,* THEN!
LET'S *JUICE!*
NO, SONIC--
WE'RE TAKING THE DOOR ON THE *RIGHT!*
WHAT?
BUT HE JUST SAID--
THAT'S RIGHT!
THINK ABOUT IT...
IF HE WAS THE HEAD THAT TELLS THE *TRUTH,* HE WOULD HAVE TOLD US *TRUTHFULLY* THAT THE *OTHER* HEAD WOULD HAVE *LIED.*
ON THE OTHER HAND, IF HE WAS THE HEAD THAT *LIES...*
THEN OBVIOUSLY IT WOULD STILL BE THE DOOR ON THE *RIGHT!*
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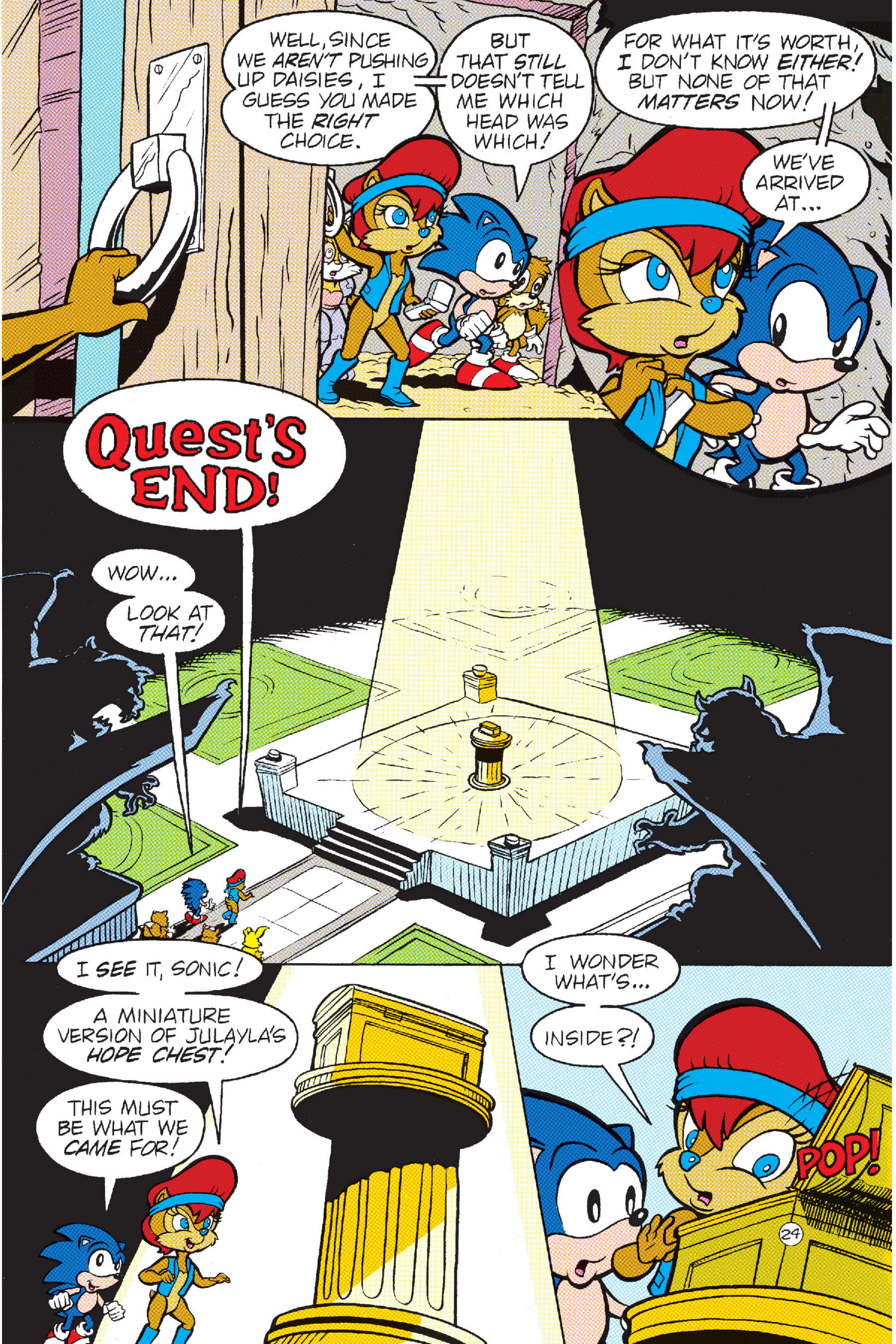
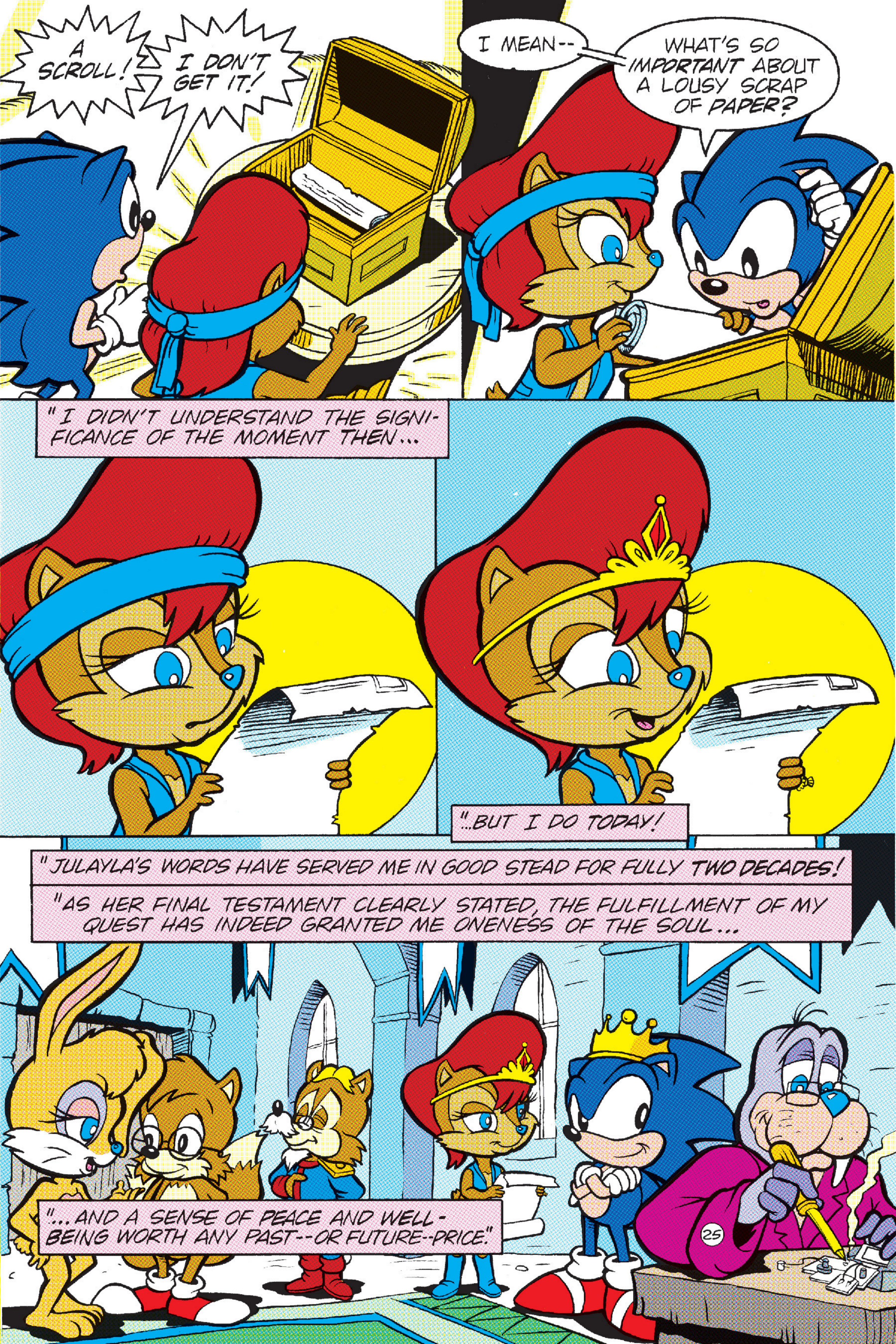
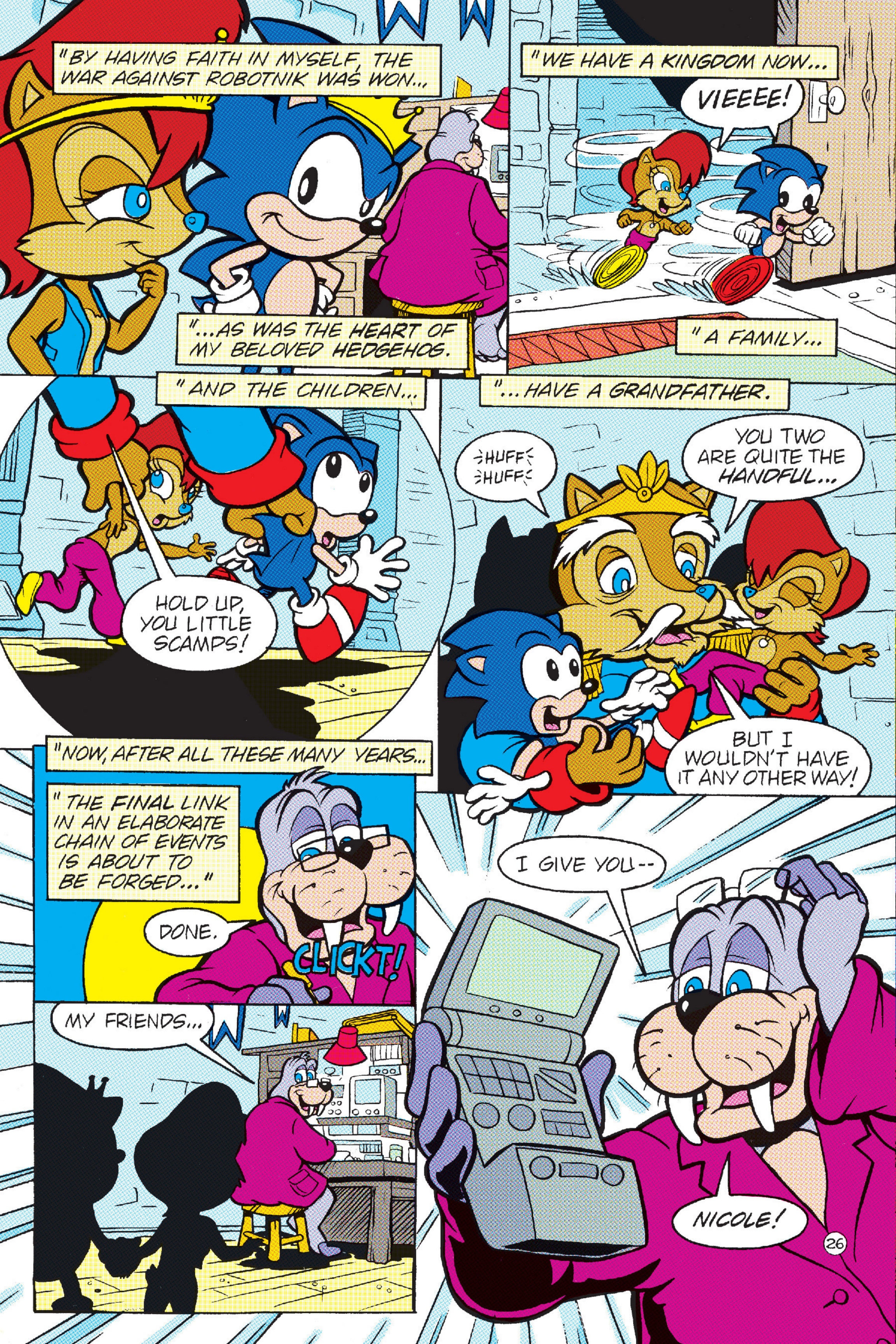
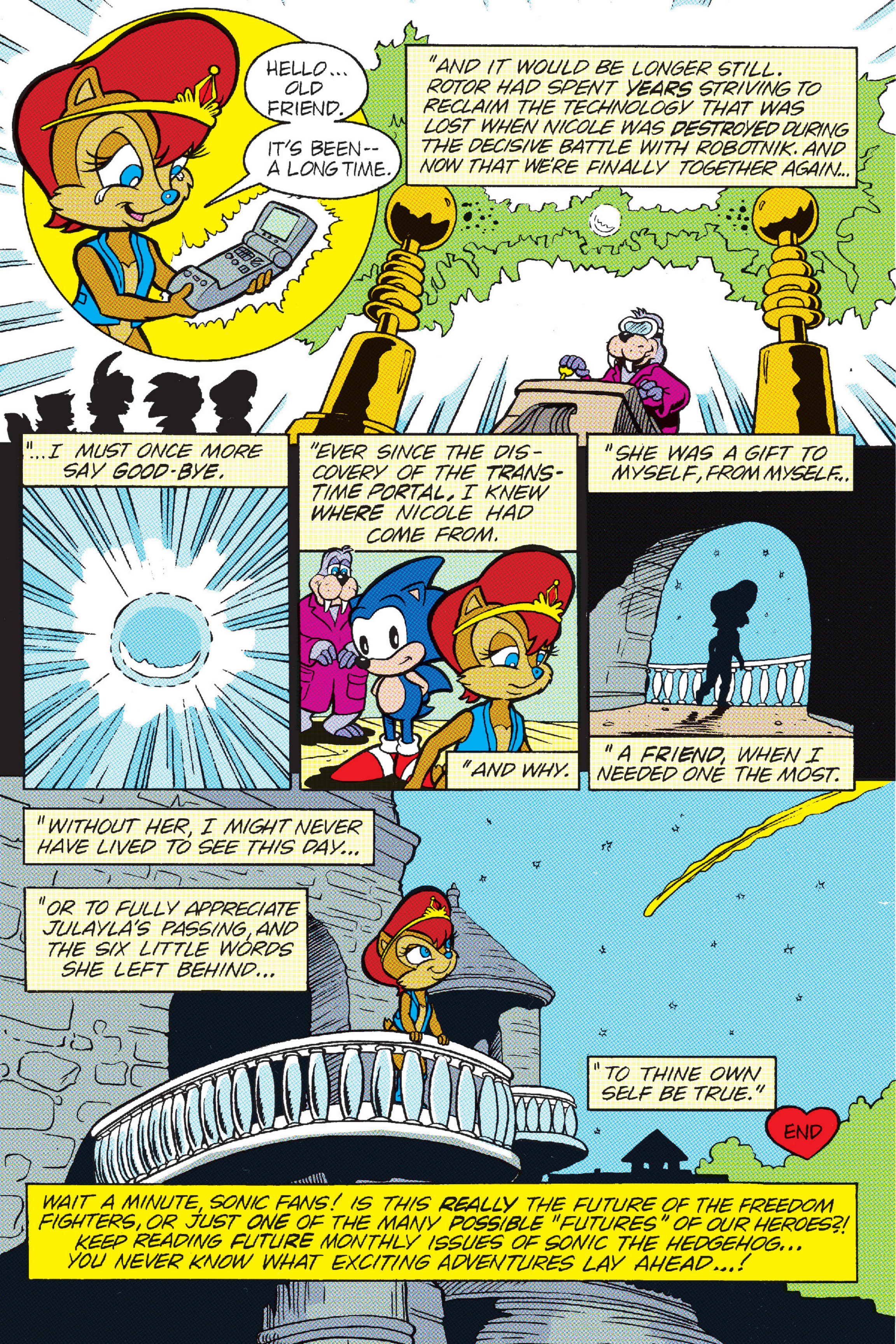
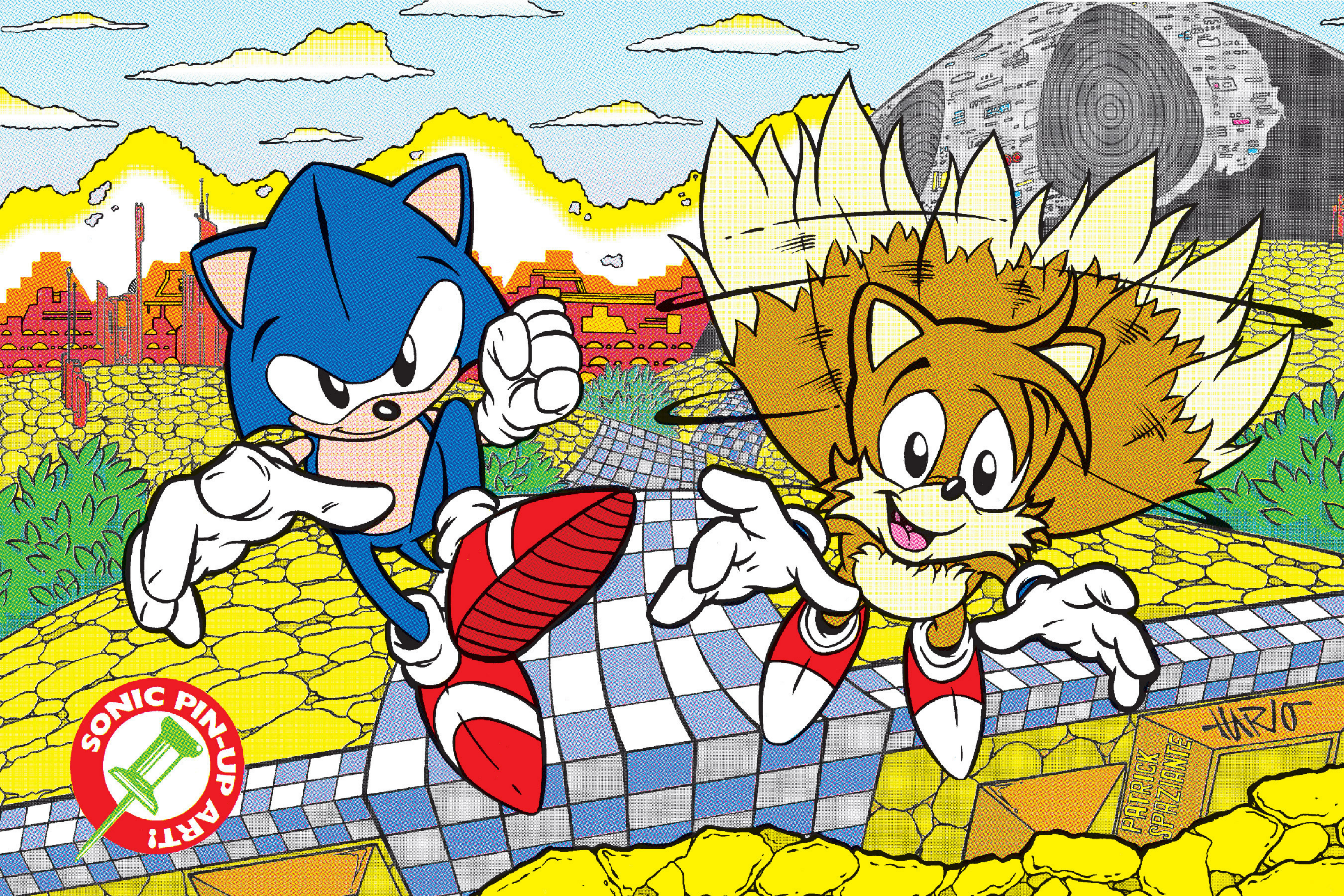
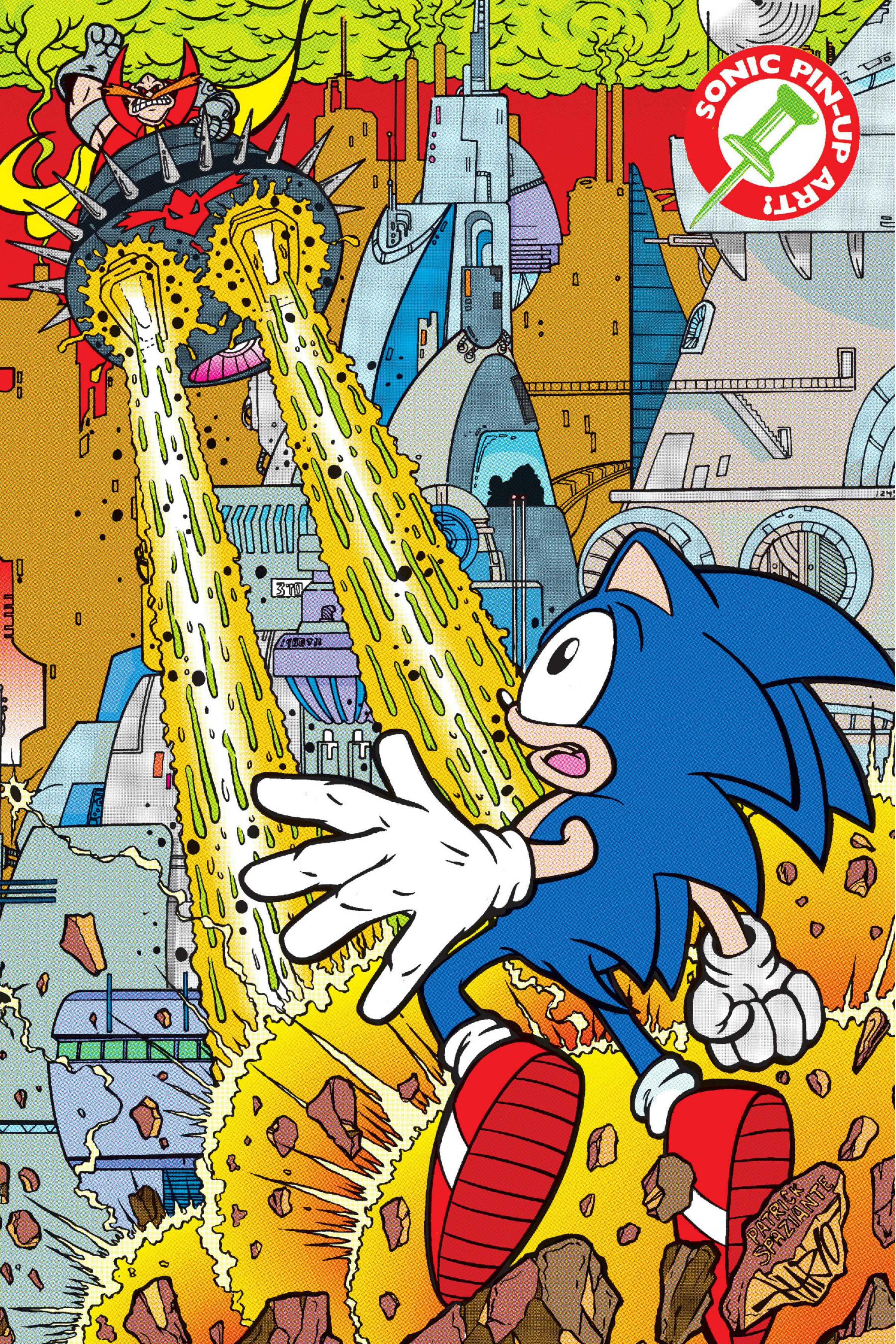

WELL, SINCE WE *AREN'T* PUSHING UP DAISIES, I GUESS YOU MADE THE *RIGHT* CHOICE.
BUT THAT *STILL* DOESN'T TELL ME WHICH HEAD WAS WHICH!
FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I DON'T KNOW *EITHER*! BUT NONE OF THAT *MATTERS* NOW!
WE'VE ARRIVED AT...
QUEST'S END!
WOW...
LOOK AT *THAT*!
I *SEE* IT, SONIC!
A MINIATURE VERSION OF JULAYLA'S *HOPE CHEST*!
THIS MUST BE WHAT WE *CAME* FOR!
I WONDER WHAT'S...
INSIDE?!
POP!

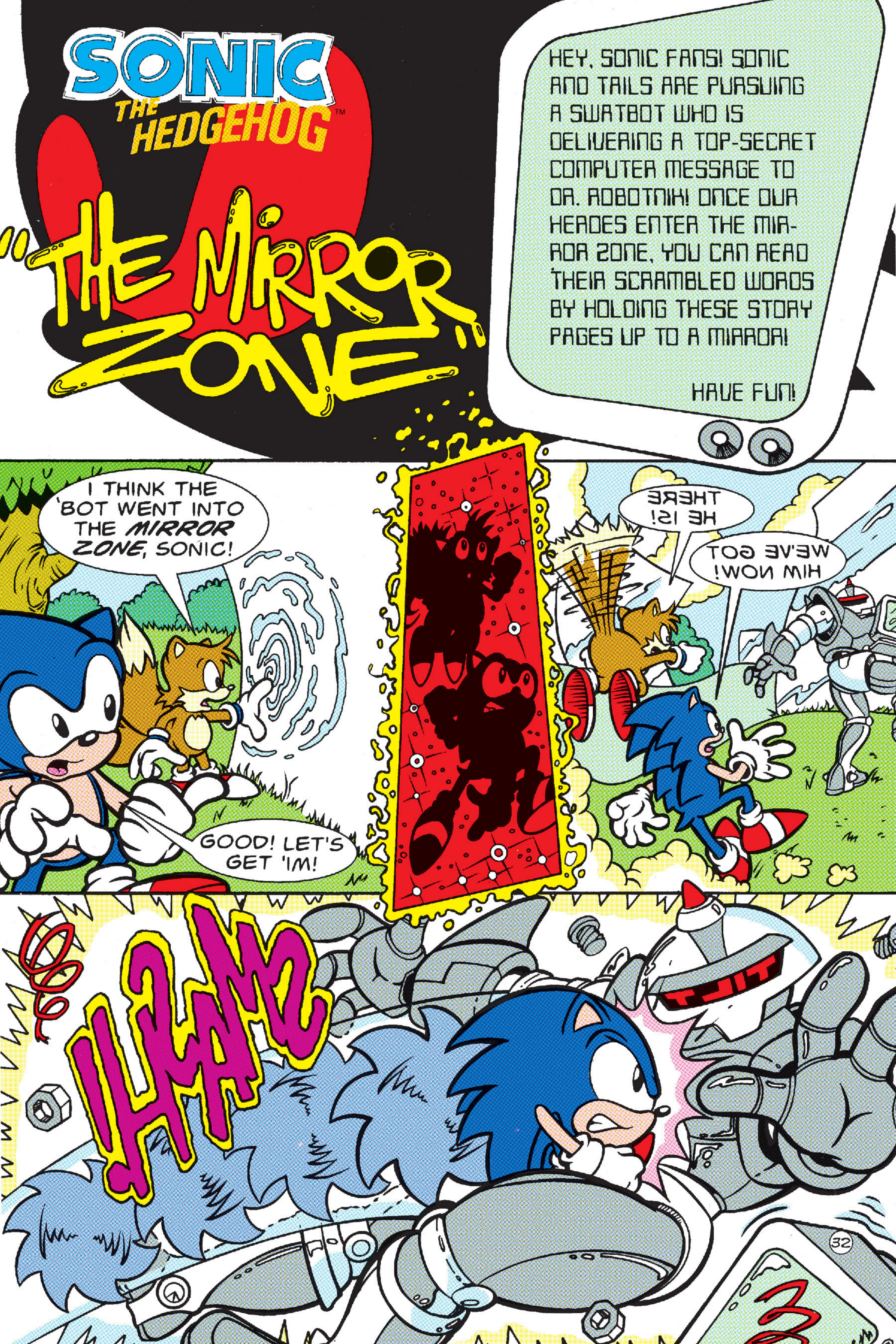

A SCROLL!
I DON'T GET IT!
I MEAN--
WHAT'S SO *IMPORTANT* ABOUT A LOUSY SCRAP OF *PAPER?*
"I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOMENT THEN...
"...BUT I DO TODAY!
"JULAYLA'S WORDS HAVE SERVED ME IN GOOD STEAD FOR FULLY **TWO DECADES!**
"AS HER FINAL TESTAMENT CLEARLY STATED, THE FULFILLMENT OF MY QUEST HAS INDEED GRANTED ME ONENESS OF THE SOUL...
"...AND A SENSE OF PEACE AND WELL-BEING WORTH ANY PAST--OR FUTURE--PRICE."

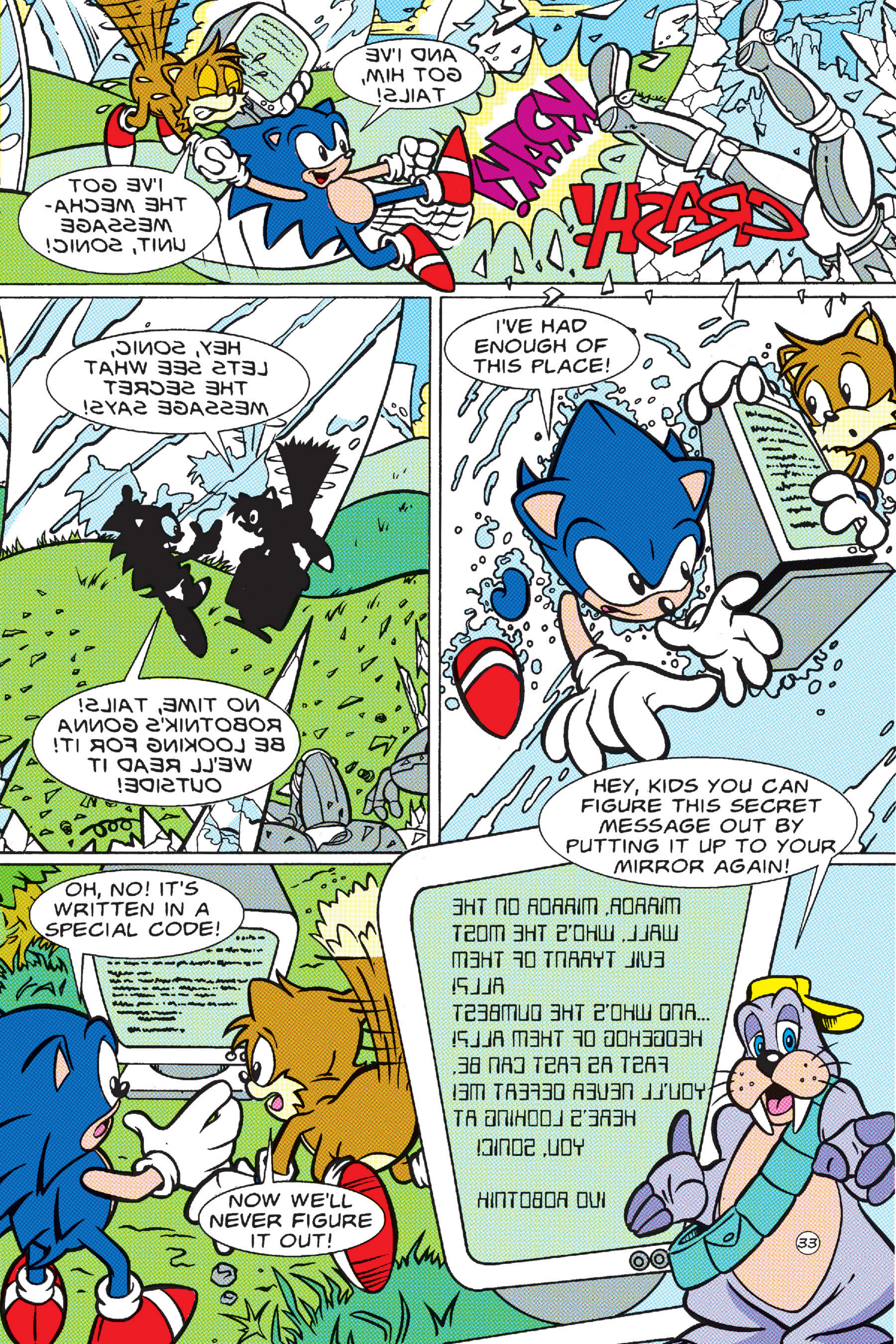

"BY HAVING FAITH IN MYSELF, THE WAR AGAINST ROBOTNIK WAS WON...
"...AS WAS THE HEART OF MY BELOVED HEDGEHOG.
"WE HAVE A KINGDOM NOW...
VIEEEE!
"A FAMILY...
"AND THE CHILDREN...
HOLD UP, YOU LITTLE SCAMPS!
"...HAVE A GRANDFATHER.
HUFF HUFF
YOU TWO ARE QUITE THE HANDFUL...
BUT I WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY!
"NOW, AFTER ALL THESE MANY YEARS...
"THE FINAL LINK IN AN ELABORATE CHAIN OF EVENTS IS ABOUT TO BE FORGED..."
DONE.
CLICKT!
MY FRIENDS...
I GIVE YOU--
NICOLE!


HELLO... OLD FRIEND.
IT'S BEEN-- A LONG TIME.
"AND IT WOULD BE LONGER STILL. ROTOR HAD SPENT YEARS STRIVING TO RECLAIM THE TECHNOLOGY THAT WAS LOST WHEN NICOLE WAS DESTROYED DURING THE DECISIVE BATTLE WITH ROBOTNIK. AND NOW THAT WE'RE FINALLY TOGETHER AGAIN...
"...I MUST ONCE MORE SAY GOOD-BYE.
"EVER SINCE THE DISCOVERY OF THE TRANS-TIME PORTAL, I KNEW WHERE NICOLE HAD COME FROM.
"AND WHY.
"SHE WAS A GIFT TO MYSELF, FROM MYSELF...
"A FRIEND, WHEN I NEEDED ONE THE MOST.
"WITHOUT HER, I MIGHT NEVER HAVE LIVED TO SEE THIS DAY...
"OR TO FULLY APPRECIATE JULAYLA'S PASSING, AND THE SIX LITTLE WORDS SHE LEFT BEHIND...
"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE."
END
WAIT A MINUTE, SONIC FANS! IS THIS REALLY THE FUTURE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, OR JUST ONE OF THE MANY POSSIBLE "FUTURES" OF OUR HEROES?! KEEP READING FUTURE MONTHLY ISSUES OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG... YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT EXCITING ADVENTURES LAY AHEAD...!

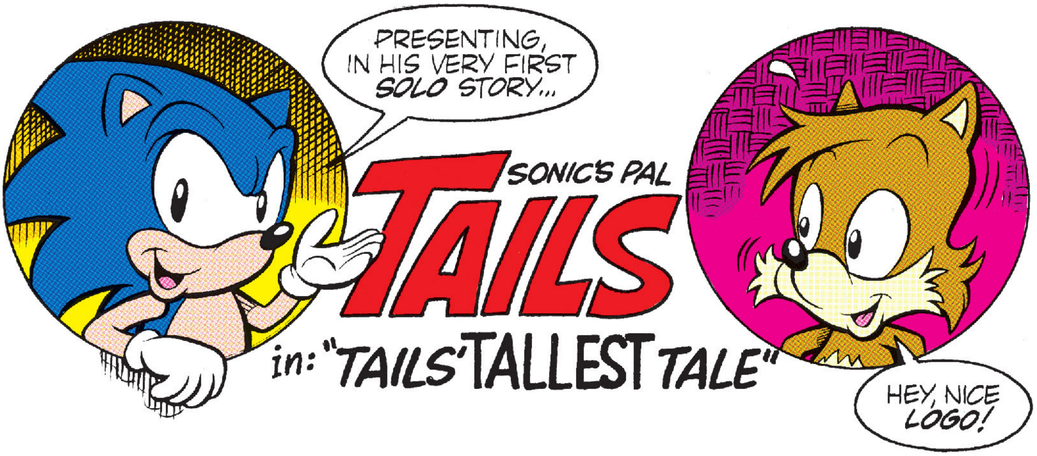

SONIC PIN-UP ART!
PATRICK SPAZIANTE

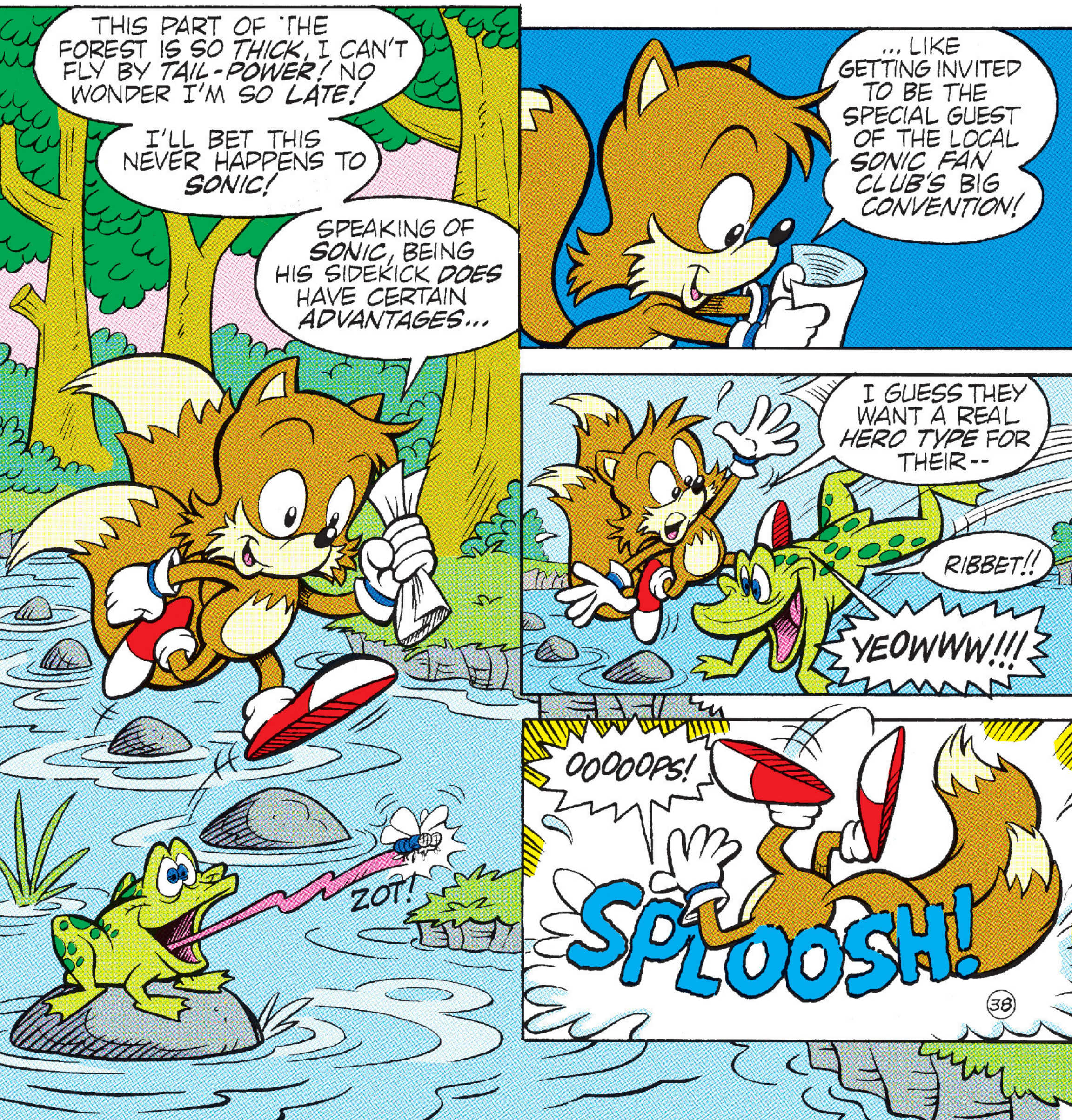

SONIC PIN-UP ART!
310
PATRICK SPAZIANTE

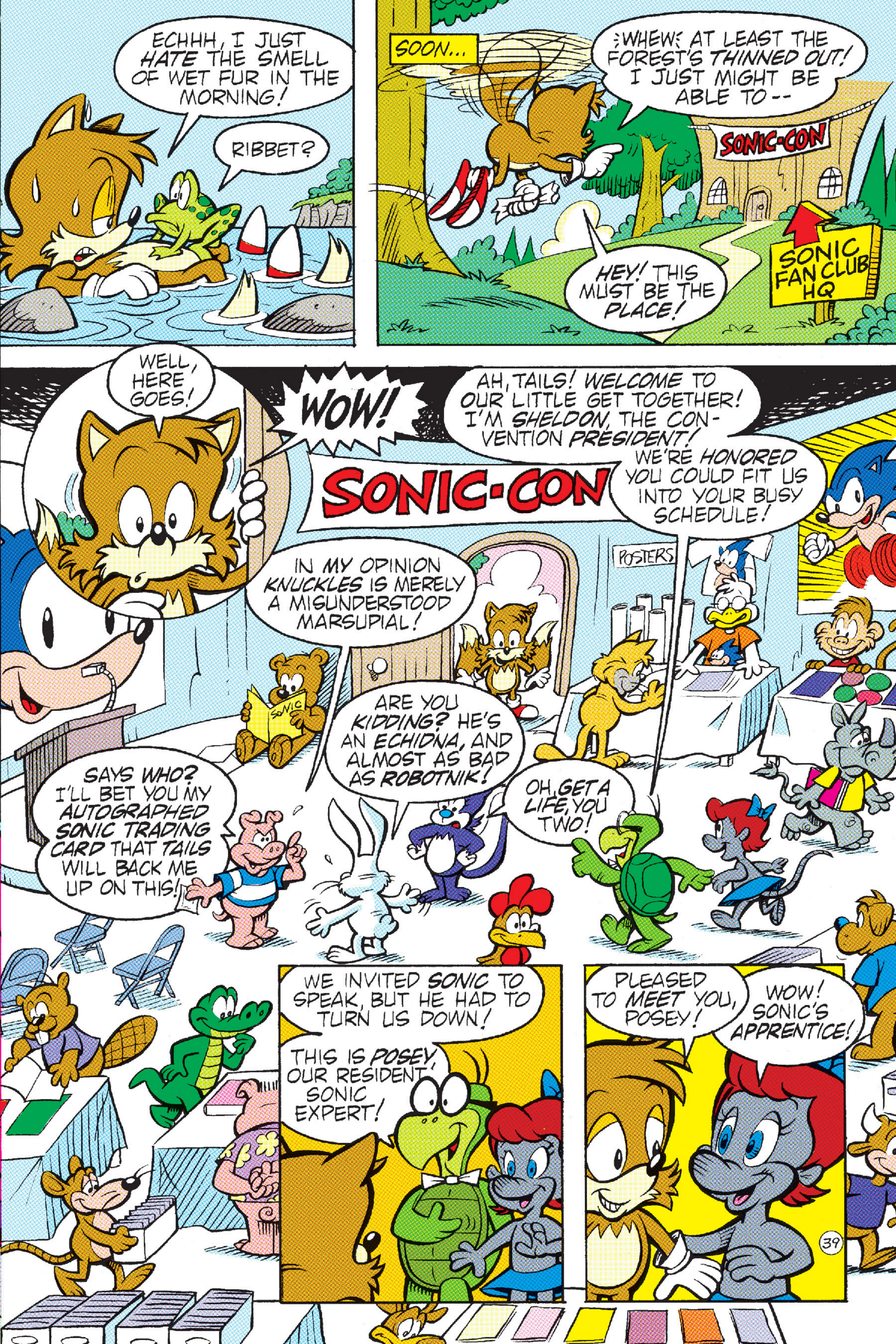

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
"THE MIRROR ZONE"
HEY, SONIC FANS! SONIC AND TAILS ARE PURSUING A SWATBOT WHO IS DELIVERING A TOP-SECRET COMPUTER MESSAGE TO DR. ROBOTNIK! ONCE OUR HEROES ENTER THE MIRROR ZONE, YOU CAN READ THEIR SCRAMBLED WORDS BY HOLDING THESE STORY PAGES UP TO A MIRROR!
HAVE FUN!
I THINK THE 'BOT WENT INTO THE *MIRROR ZONE*, SONIC!
GOOD! LET'S GET 'IM!
THERE HE IS!
WE'VE GOT HIM NOW!
!MAHW
TILT

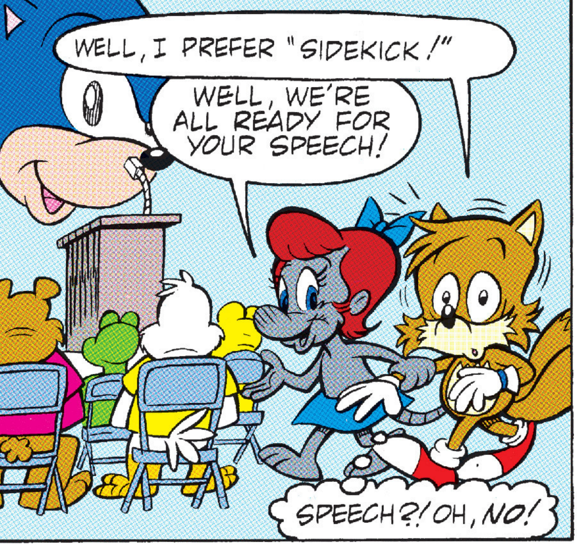

I'VE GOT THE MECHA-MESSAGE UNIT, SONIC!
AND I'VE GOT HIM, TAILS!
WHACK!
CRASH!
HEY, SONIC, LET'S SEE WHAT THE SECRET MESSAGE SAYS!
NO TIME, TAILS! ROBOTNIK'S GONNA BE LOOKING FOR IT! WE'LL READ IT OUTSIDE!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS PLACE!
HEY, KIDS YOU CAN FIGURE THIS SECRET MESSAGE OUT BY PUTTING IT UP TO YOUR MIRROR AGAIN!
OH, NO! IT'S WRITTEN IN A SPECIAL CODE!
NOW WE'LL NEVER FIGURE IT OUT!
MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL, WHO'S THE MOST EVIL TYRANT OF THEM ALL?!
AND WHO'S THE DUMBEST HEDGEHOG OF THEM ALL?!
FAST AS FAST CAN BE, YOU'LL NEVER DEFEAT ME!
HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU, SONIC!
IVO ROBOTNIK

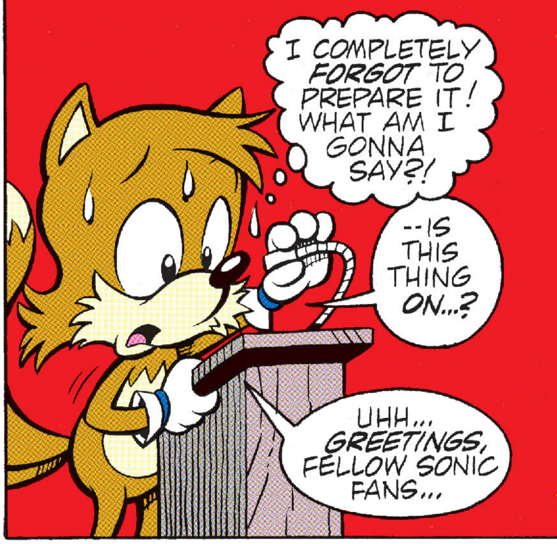
SONIC'S PAL TAILS in: "TAILS' TALLEST TALE"

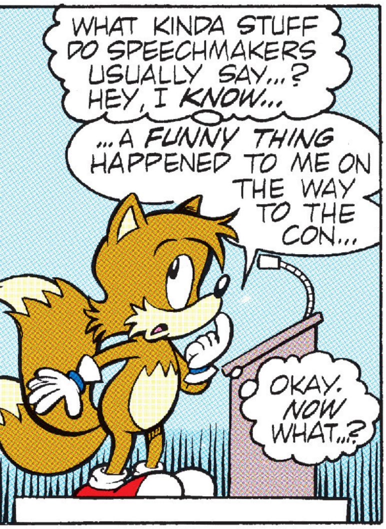

PRESENTING, IN HIS VERY FIRST *SOLO* STORY...
HEY, NICE *LOGO!*

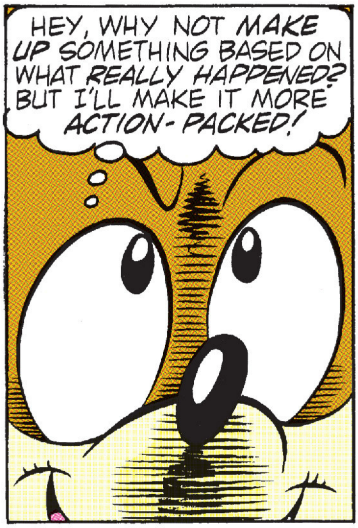

THIS PART OF THE FOREST IS SO *THICK*, I CAN'T FLY BY *TAIL-POWER!* NO WONDER I'M SO *LATE!*
I'LL BET THIS NEVER HAPPENS TO *SONIC!*
SPEAKING OF *SONIC*, BEING HIS SIDEKICK *DOES* HAVE CERTAIN *ADVANTAGES*...
ZOT!
... LIKE GETTING INVITED TO BE THE SPECIAL GUEST OF THE LOCAL *SONIC FAN CLUB'S* BIG *CONVENTION!*
I GUESS THEY WANT A REAL *HERO TYPE* FOR THEIR--
RIBBET!!
YEOWWW!!!
OOOOOPS!
SPLOOSH!

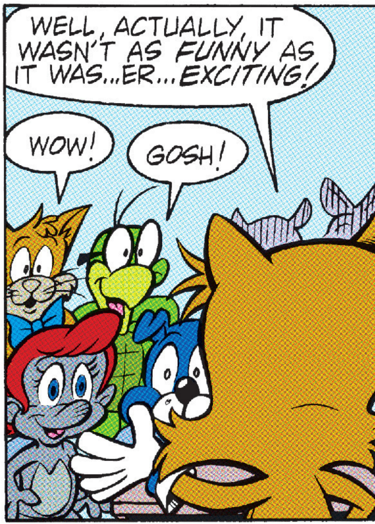

ECHHH, I JUST *HATE* THE SMELL OF WET FUR IN THE MORNING!
RIBBET?
SOON...
WHEW! AT LEAST THE FOREST'S *THINNED OUT!* I JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO --
SONIC-CON
SONIC FAN CLUB HQ
HEY! THIS MUST BE THE *PLACE!*
WELL, HERE GOES!
WOW!
SONIC-CON
AH, TAILS! *WELCOME* TO OUR LITTLE GET TOGETHER! I'M *SHELDON*, THE CONVENTION *PRESIDENT!*
WE'RE *HONORED* YOU COULD FIT US INTO YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE!
POSTERS
IN *MY* OPINION *KNUCKLES* IS MERELY A MISUNDERSTOOD MARSUPIAL!
SONIC
ARE YOU *KIDDING?* HE'S AN *ECHIDNA*, AND ALMOST AS BAD AS *ROBOTNIK!*
SAYS *WHO?* I'LL BET YOU MY *AUTOGRAPHED SONIC TRADING CARD* THAT *TAILS* WILL BACK ME UP ON THIS!
OH, *GET A LIFE*, YOU TWO!
WE INVITED *SONIC* TO SPEAK, BUT HE HAD TO TURN US DOWN!
THIS IS *POSEY*, OUR RESIDENT SONIC EXPERT!
PLEASED TO *MEET* YOU, POSEY!
WOW! SONIC'S *APPRENTICE!*

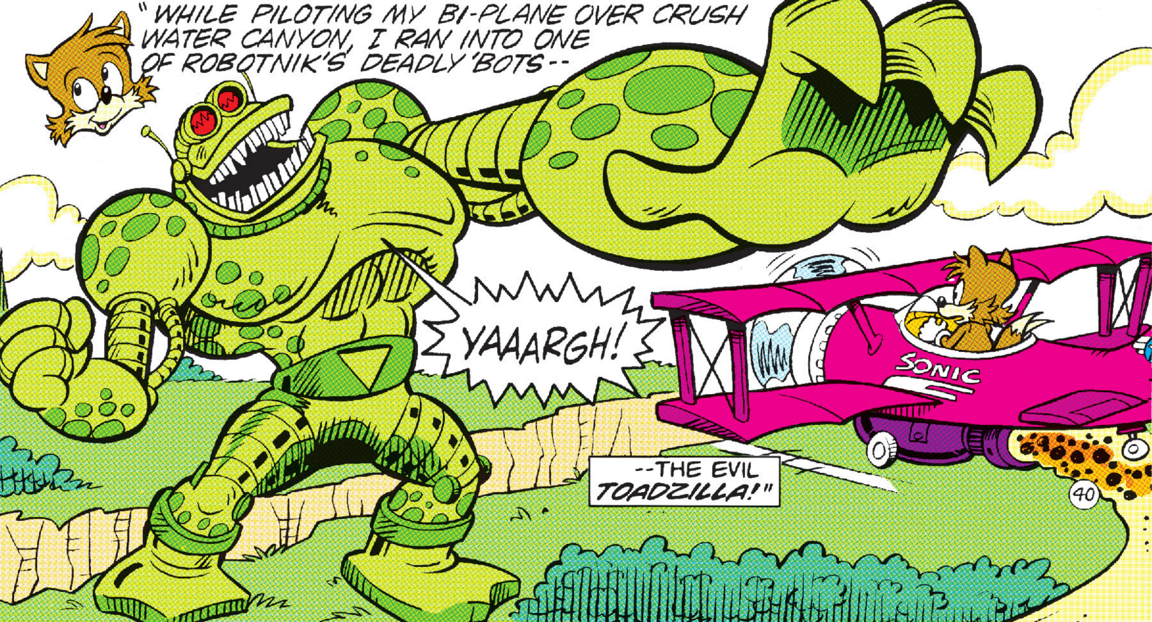

WELL, I PREFER "SIDEKICK!"
WELL, WE'RE ALL READY FOR YOUR SPEECH!
SPEECH?! OH, *NO!*

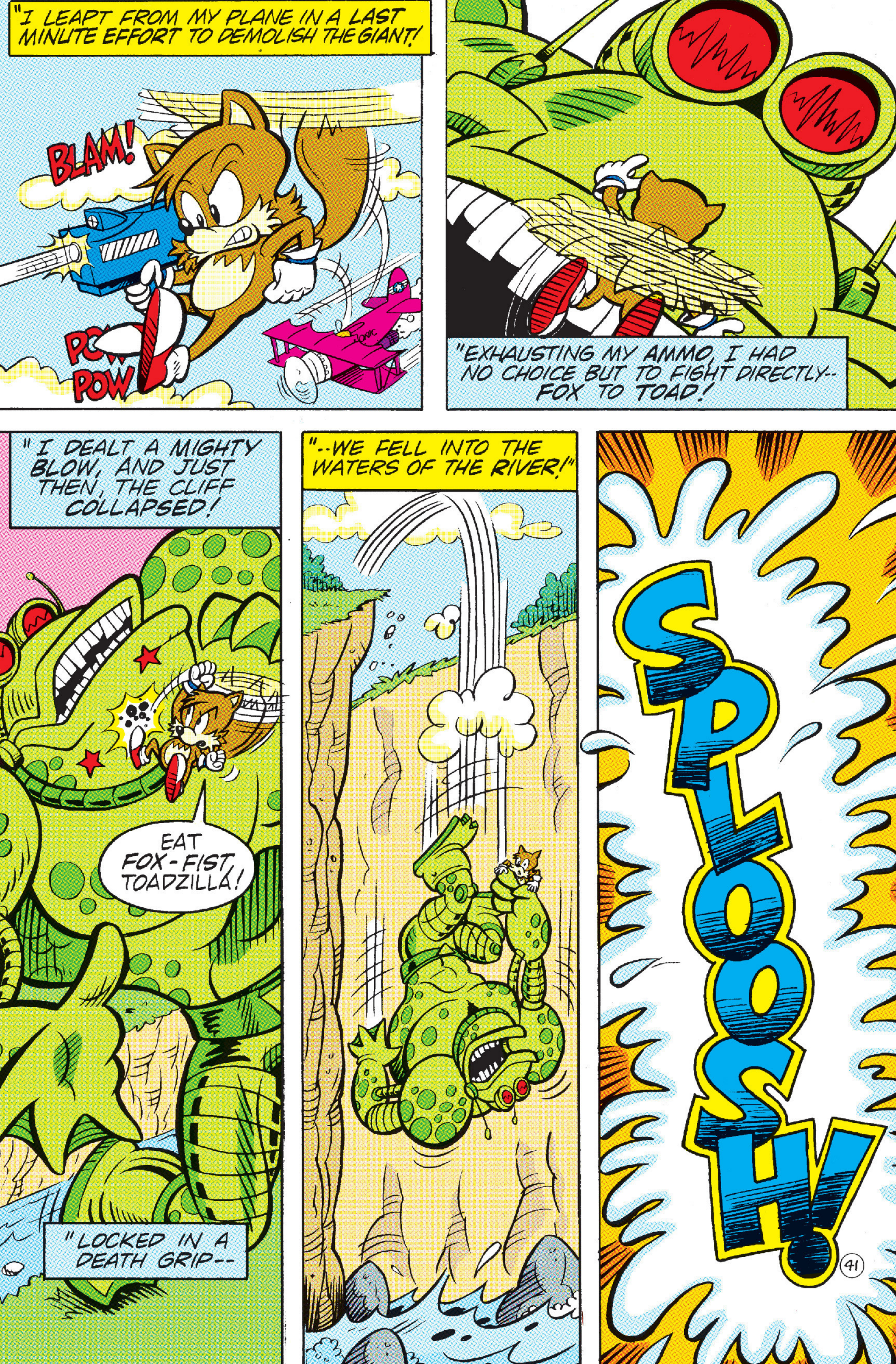

I COMPLETELY *FORGOT* TO PREPARE IT! WHAT AM I GONNA SAY?!
--IS THIS THING *ON...?*
UHH... *GREETINGS,* FELLOW SONIC FANS...

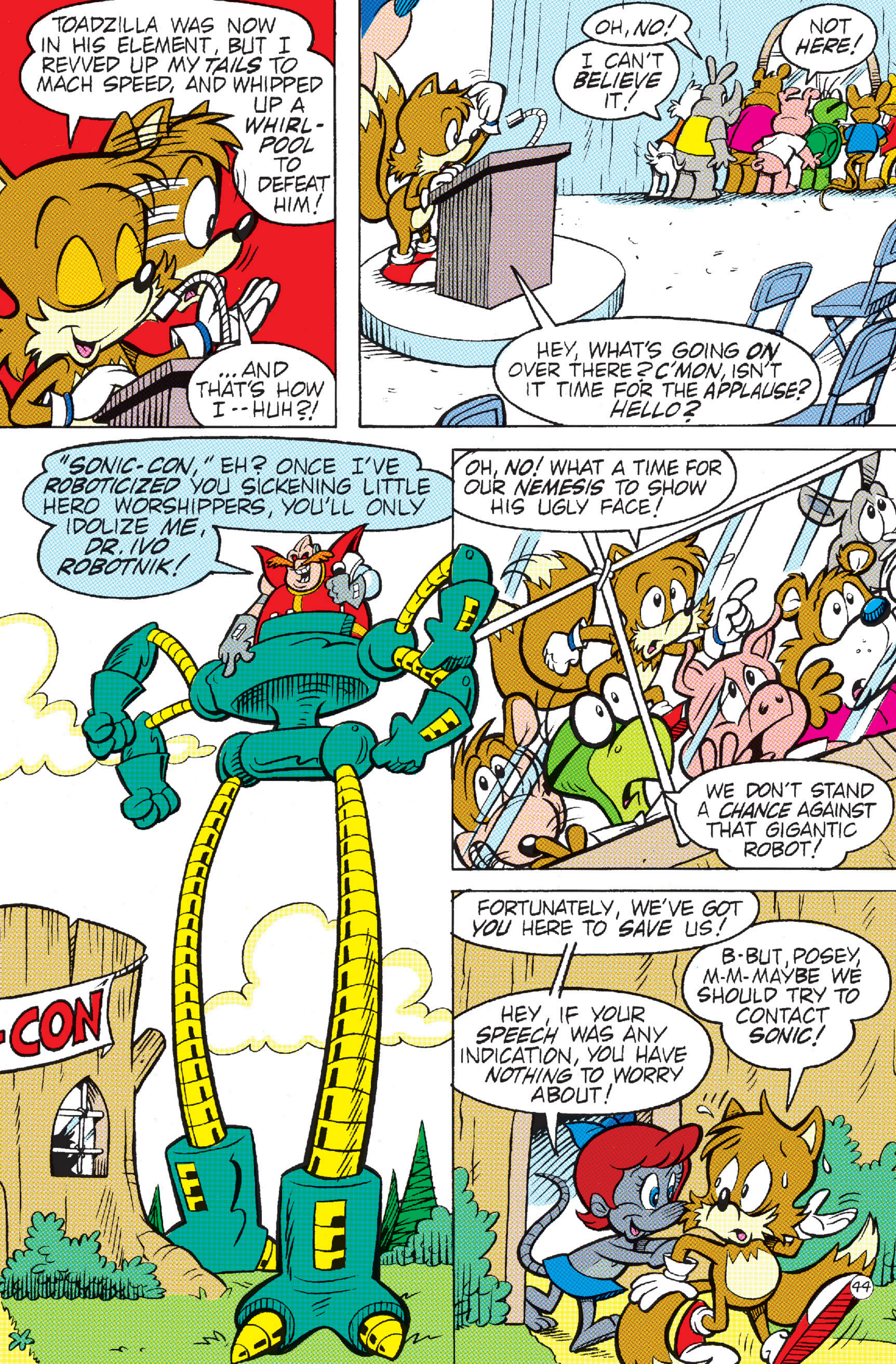

WHAT KINDA STUFF DO SPEECHMAKERS USUALLY SAY...? HEY, I *KNOW...*
...A *FUNNY THING* HAPPENED TO ME ON THE WAY TO THE CON...
OKAY. *NOW* WHAT...?

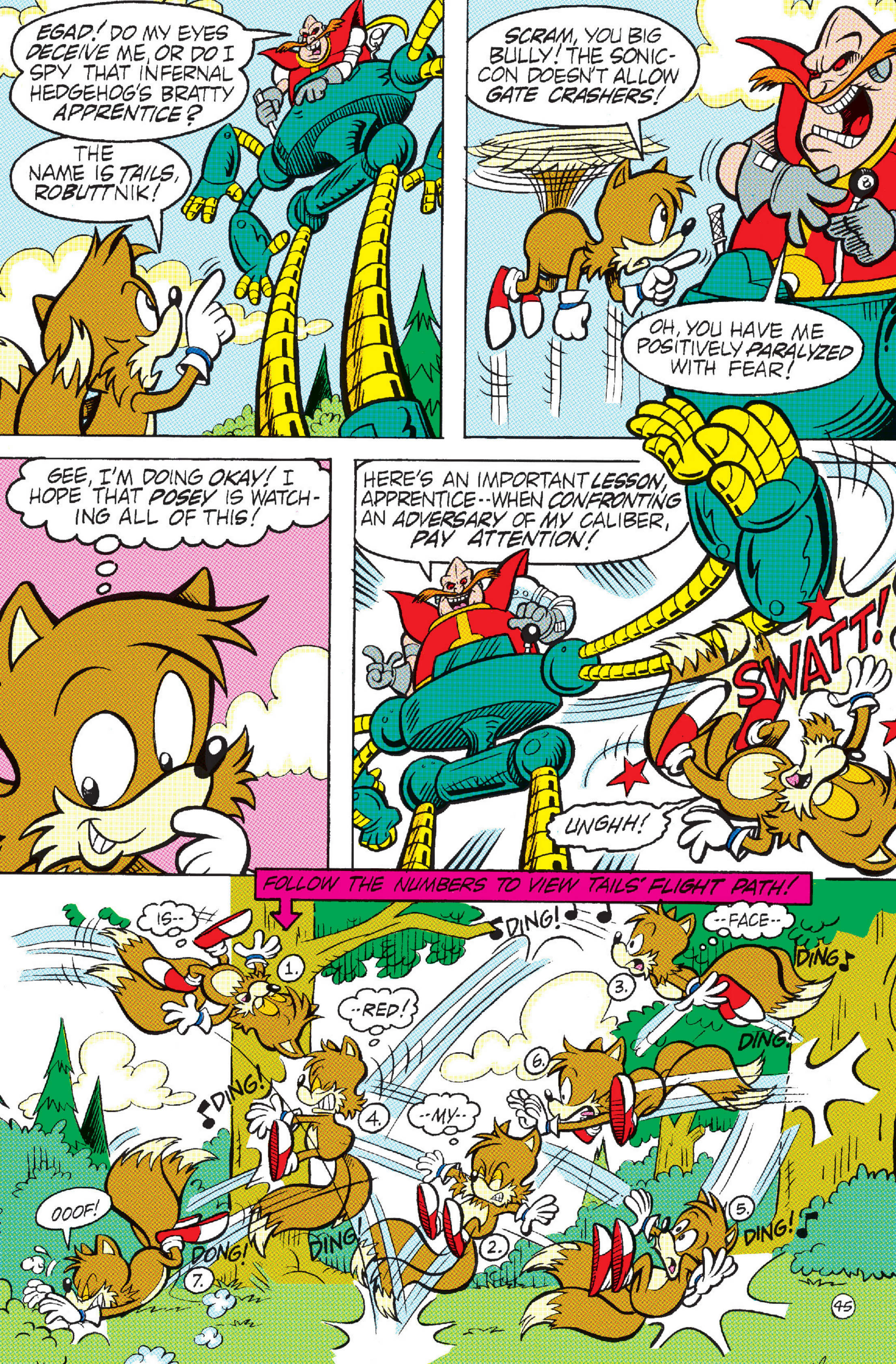

HEY, WHY NOT *MAKE UP* SOMETHING BASED ON WHAT *REALLY HAPPENED?* BUT I'LL MAKE IT MORE *ACTION-PACKED!*

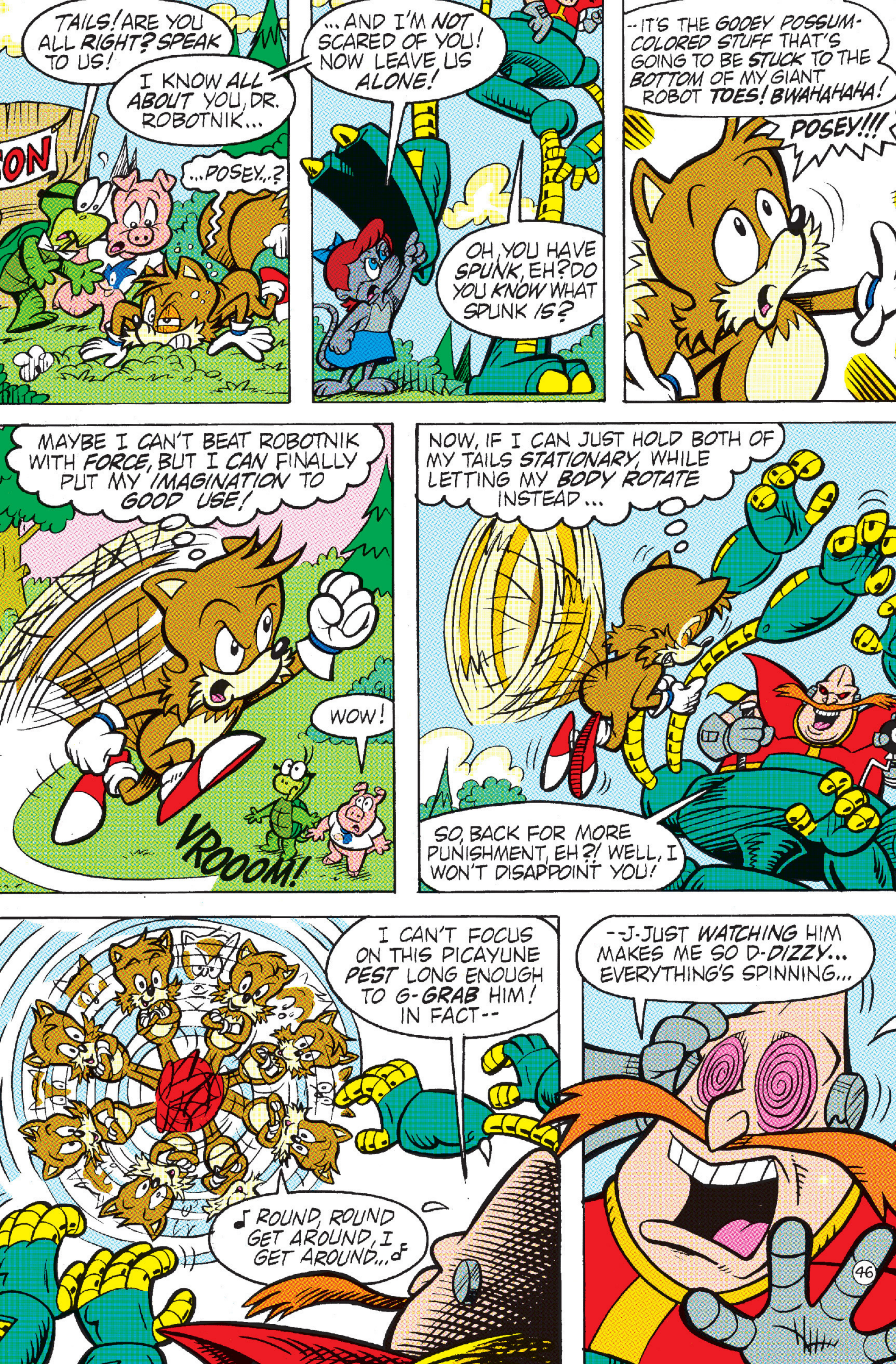

WELL, ACTUALLY, IT WASN'T AS *FUNNY* AS IT WAS...ER...*EXCITING!*
WOW!
GOSH!

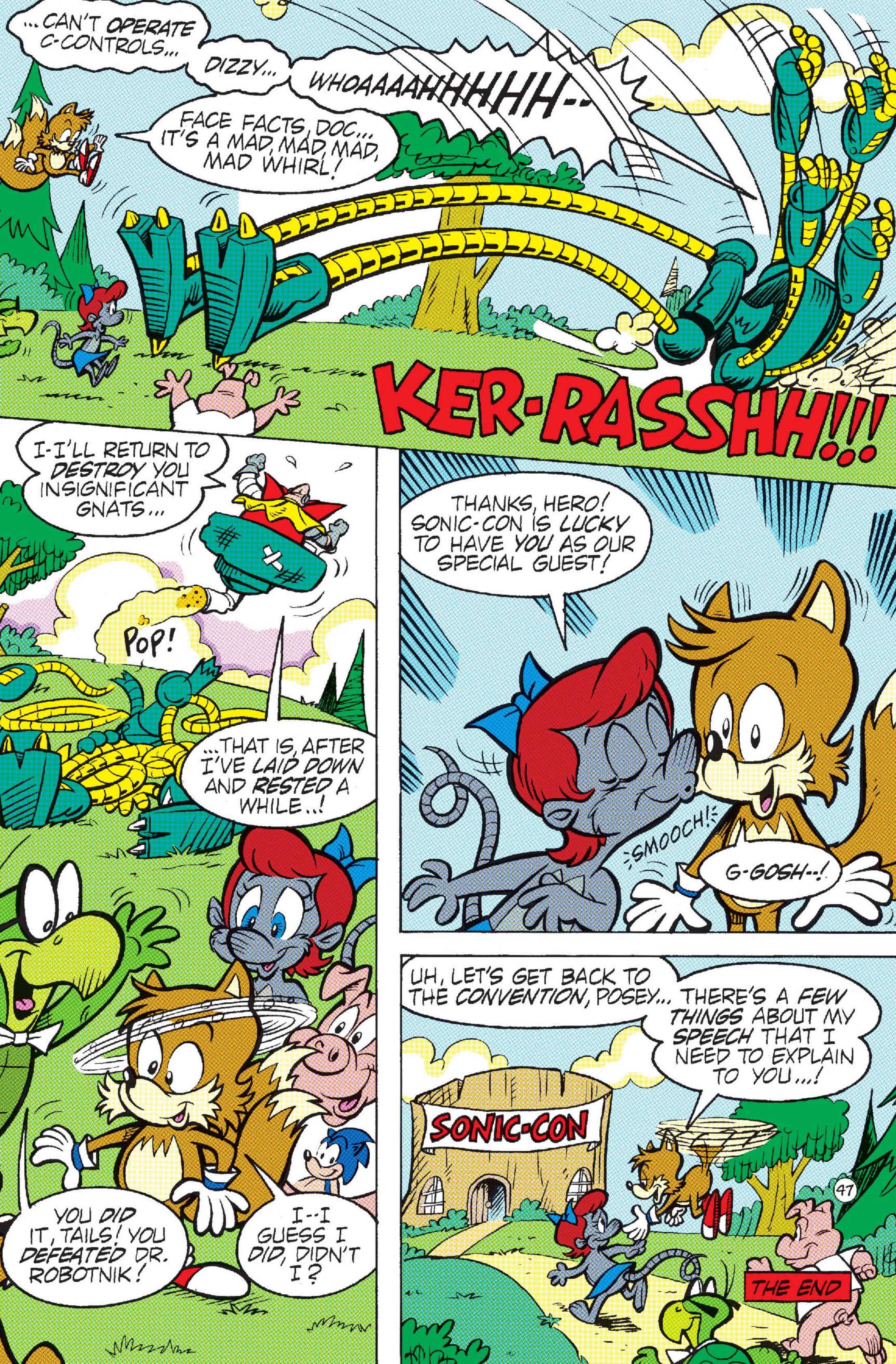

"WHILE PILOTING MY BI-PLANE OVER CRUSH WATER CANYON, I RAN INTO ONE OF ROBOTNIK'S DEADLY 'BOTS--
YAAARGH!
SONIC
--THE EVIL *TOADZILLA!"*

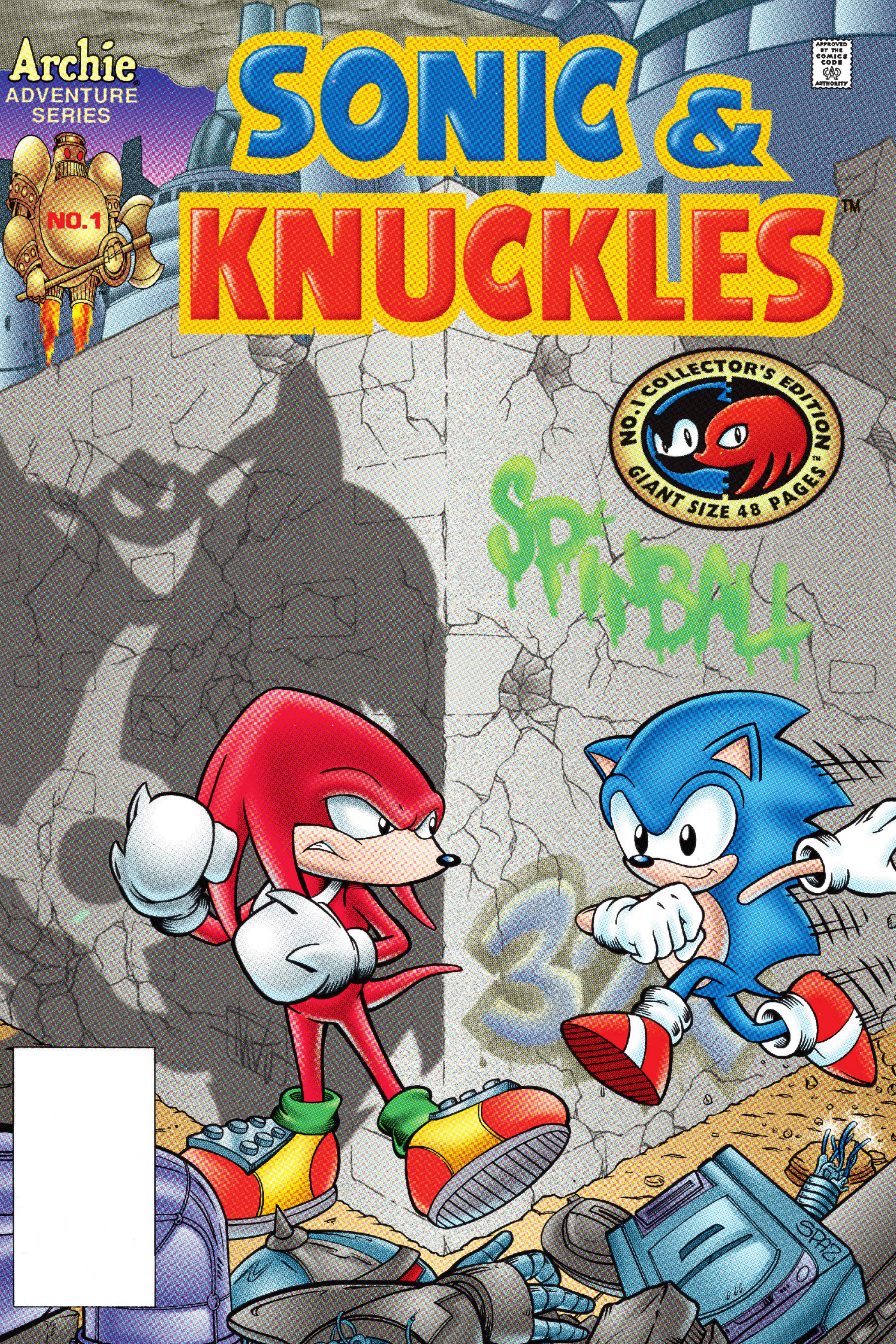

"I LEAPT FROM MY PLANE IN A LAST MINUTE EFFORT TO DEMOLISH THE GIANT!
BLAM!
POW
POW
"EXHAUSTING MY AMMO, I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT DIRECTLY-- FOX TO TOAD!
" I DEALT A MIGHTY BLOW, AND JUST THEN, THE CLIFF COLLAPSED!
EAT FOX-FIST, TOADZILLA!
"LOCKED IN A DEATH GRIP--
"--WE FELL INTO THE WATERS OF THE RIVER!"
SPLOOSH!


TOADZILLA WAS NOW IN HIS ELEMENT, BUT I REVVED UP MY *TAILS* TO MACH SPEED, AND WHIPPED UP A *WHIRLPOOL* TO DEFEAT HIM!
...AND THAT'S HOW I--HUH?!
OH, *NO!*
I CAN'T *BELIEVE* IT!
NOT *HERE!*
HEY, WHAT'S GOING *ON* OVER THERE? *C'MON*, ISN'T IT TIME FOR THE *APPLAUSE? HELLO?*
"SONIC-CON," EH? ONCE I'VE *ROBOTICIZED* YOU SICKENING LITTLE HERO WORSHIPPERS, YOU'LL ONLY IDOLIZE *ME, DR. IVO ROBOTNIK!*
OH, *NO!* WHAT A TIME FOR OUR *NEMESIS* TO SHOW HIS UGLY FACE!
WE DON'T STAND A *CHANCE* AGAINST THAT GIGANTIC ROBOT!
-CON
FORTUNATELY, WE'VE GOT *YOU* HERE TO *SAVE* US!
B-BUT, POSEY, M-M-MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY TO CONTACT *SONIC!*
HEY, IF YOUR *SPEECH* WAS ANY INDICATION, YOU HAVE *NOTHING* TO WORRY ABOUT!
44


EGAD! DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME, OR DO I SPY THAT INFERNAL HEDGEHOG'S BRATTY APPRENTICE?
THE NAME IS TAILS, ROBUTTNIK!
SCRAM, YOU BIG BULLY! THE SONIC-CON DOESN'T ALLOW GATE CRASHERS!
OH, YOU HAVE ME POSITIVELY PARALYZED WITH FEAR!
GEE, I'M DOING OKAY! I HOPE THAT POSEY IS WATCHING ALL OF THIS!
HERE'S AN IMPORTANT LESSON, APPRENTICE--WHEN CONFRONTING AN ADVERSARY OF MY CALIBER, PAY ATTENTION!
SWATT!
UNGHH!
FOLLOW THE NUMBERS TO VIEW TAILS' FLIGHT PATH!
1.
IS--
DING!
2.
--MY--
DING!
3.
--FACE--
DING!
4.
--RED!
DING!
5.
DING!
6.
DING!
7.
OOOF!
DONG!


TAILS! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? SPEAK TO US!
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU, DR. ROBOTNIK...
ON
...POSEY..?
...AND I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU! NOW LEAVE US ALONE!
OH, YOU HAVE SPUNK, EH? DO YOU KNOW WHAT SPUNK IS?
--IT'S THE GOOEY POSSUM-COLORED STUFF THAT'S GOING TO BE STUCK TO THE BOTTOM OF MY GIANT ROBOT TOES! BWAHAHAHA!
POSEY!!!
MAYBE I CAN'T BEAT ROBOTNIK WITH FORCE, BUT I CAN FINALLY PUT MY IMAGINATION TO GOOD USE!
WOW!
VROOOM!
NOW, IF I CAN JUST HOLD BOTH OF MY TAILS STATIONARY, WHILE LETTING MY BODY ROTATE INSTEAD...
SO, BACK FOR MORE PUNISHMENT, EH?! WELL, I WON'T DISAPPOINT YOU!
I CAN'T FOCUS ON THIS PICAYUNE PEST LONG ENOUGH TO G-GRAB HIM! IN FACT--
♪ ROUND, ROUND GET AROUND, I GET AROUND... ♪
--J-JUST WATCHING HIM MAKES ME SO D-DIZZY... EVERYTHING'S SPINNING...


...CAN'T OPERATE C-CONTROLS...
DIZZY...
WHOAAAAHHHHH--
FACE FACTS, DOC... IT'S A MAD, MAD, MAD, MAD WHIRL!
KER-RASSHH!!!
I-I'LL RETURN TO DESTROY YOU INSIGNIFICANT GNATS...
POP!
...THAT IS, AFTER I'VE LAID DOWN AND RESTED A WHILE..!
THANKS, HERO! SONIC-CON IS LUCKY TO HAVE YOU AS OUR SPECIAL GUEST!
SMOOCH!
G-GOSH--!
YOU DID IT, TAILS! YOU DEFEATED DR. ROBOTNIK!
I--I GUESS I DID, DIDN'T I?
UH, LET'S GET BACK TO THE CONVENTION, POSEY... THERE'S A FEW THINGS ABOUT MY SPEECH THAT I NEED TO EXPLAIN TO YOU...!
SONIC-CON
THE END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GIANT SIZE 48 PAGES™
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IN THIS ISSUE:

"PANIC IN THE SKY!"

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"LORD OF THE FLOATING ISLAND"

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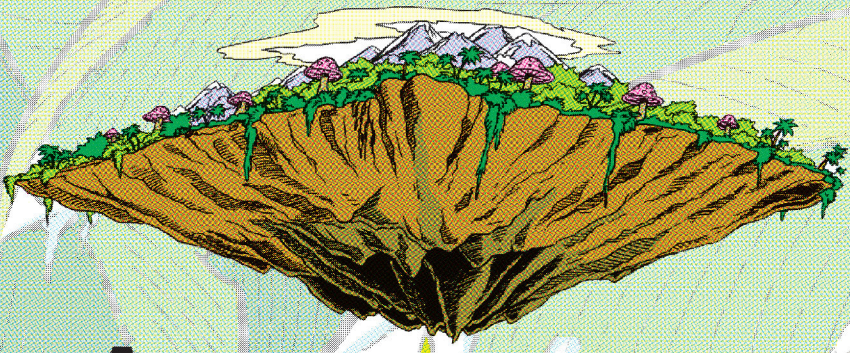


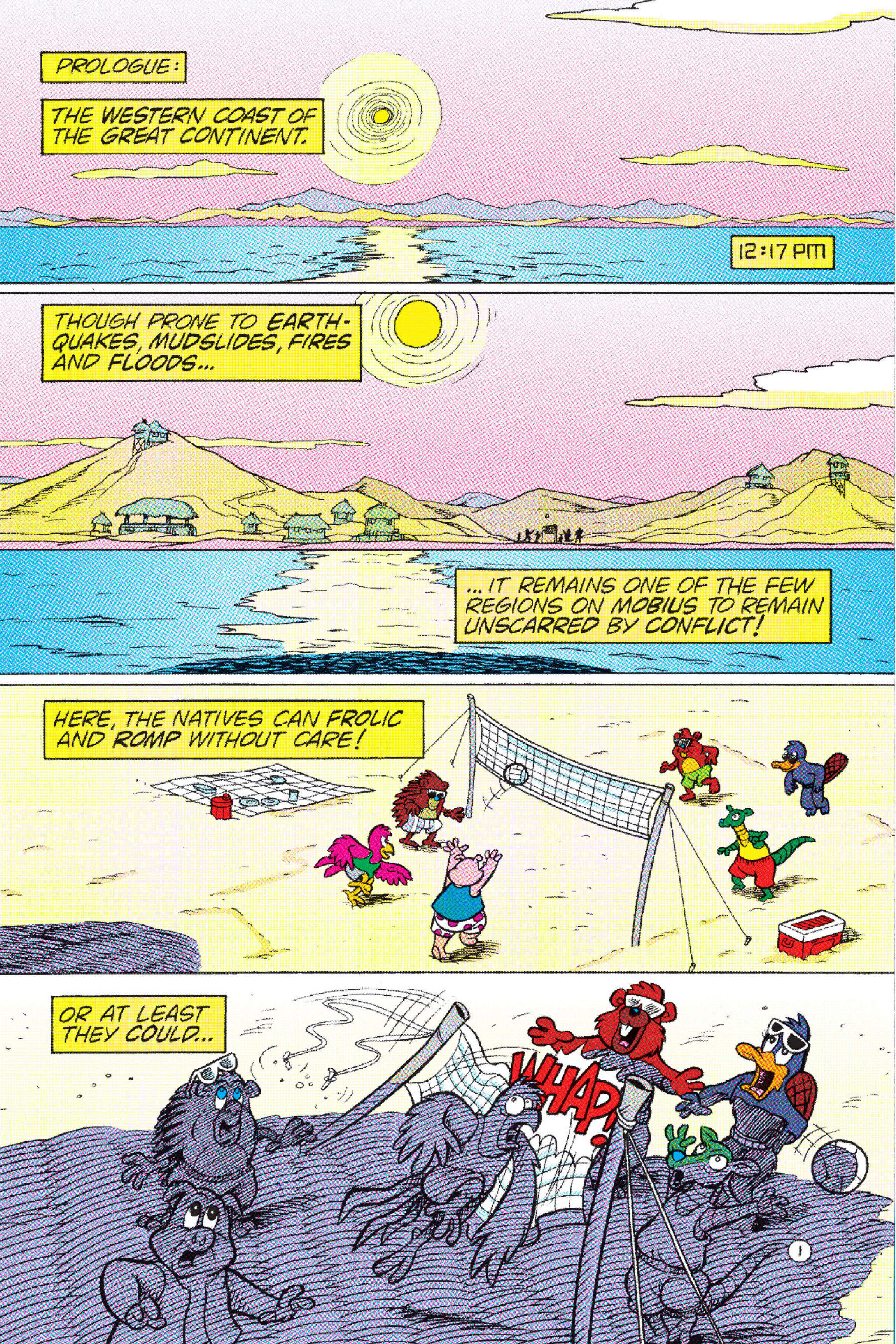
A land once renowned for its great beauty, the planet **Mobius** is well on its way to becoming a scarred, lifeless battlefield, thanks to the relentless acts of scientific terrorism unleashed by the evil Techno-Tyrant, **Dr. Ivo Robotnik**.

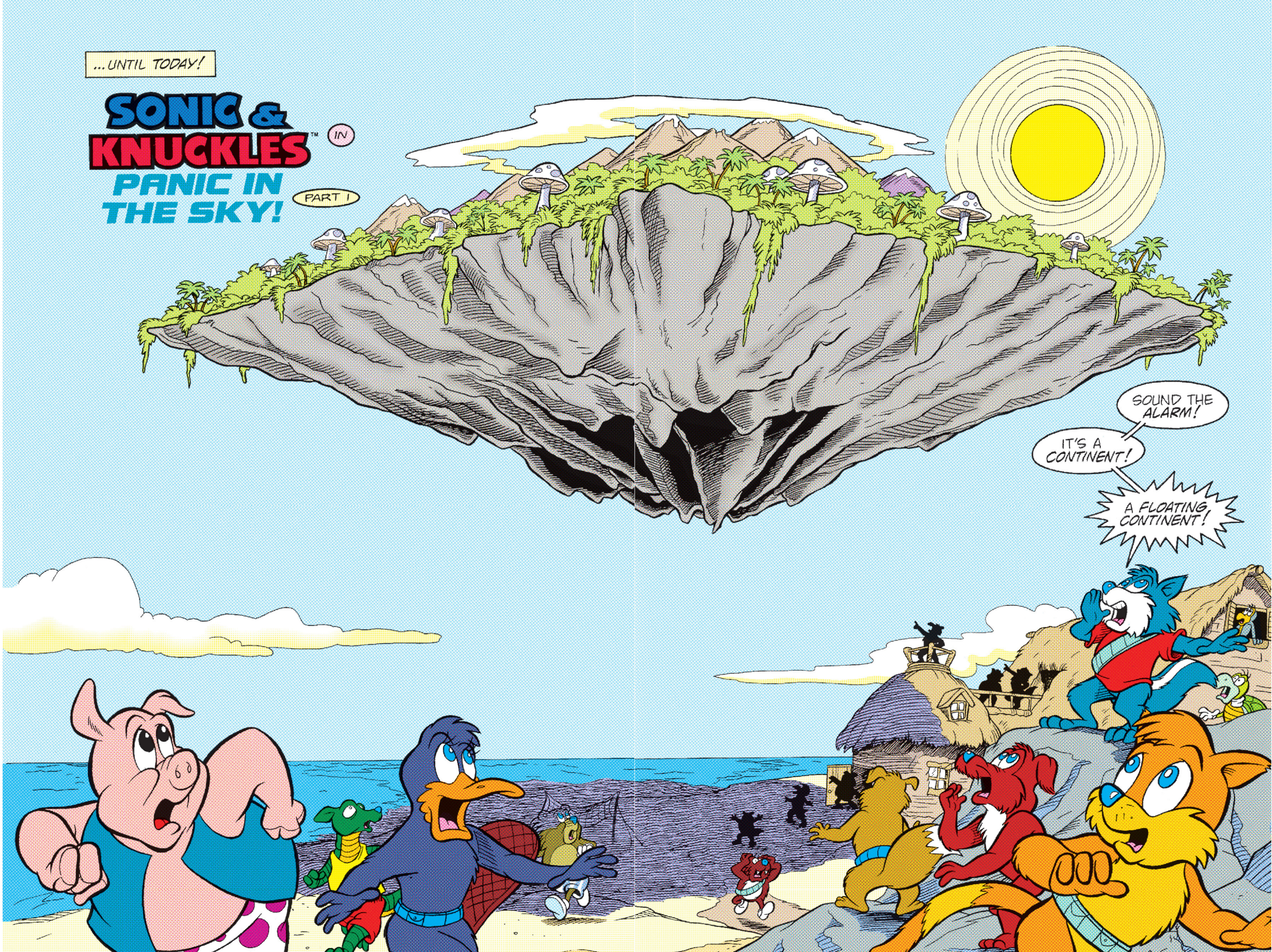
In this once-serene plane, only one great natural wonder remains untouched by this utter devastation: the mysterious **Floating Island.** A mighty continent, the island is held aloft by the energy of a rare and powerful gem known as a **Chaos Emerald**. A world unto itself with its origins lost to antiquity, this sprawling multi-zoned land mass drifts lazily above the face of Mobius, existing in harmony, yet forever apart.

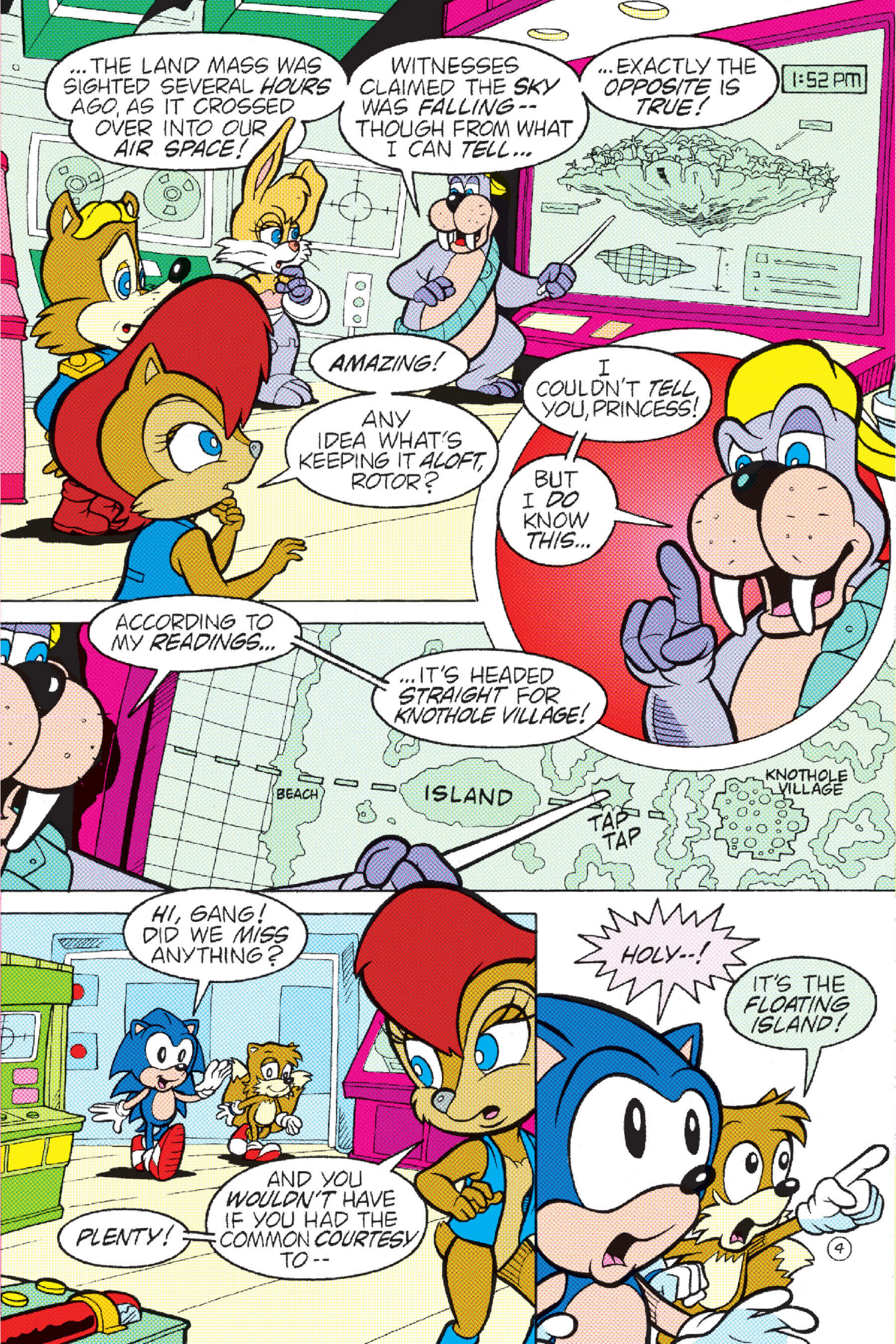
As enigmatic as the Floating Island is its guardian, **Knuckles The Echidna**. Last of an ancient, noble race, his charge is to preserve the peace, and protect the island's boundaries from the encroachment and harsh realities of the "outside world" -- a task handed down generation unto generation.

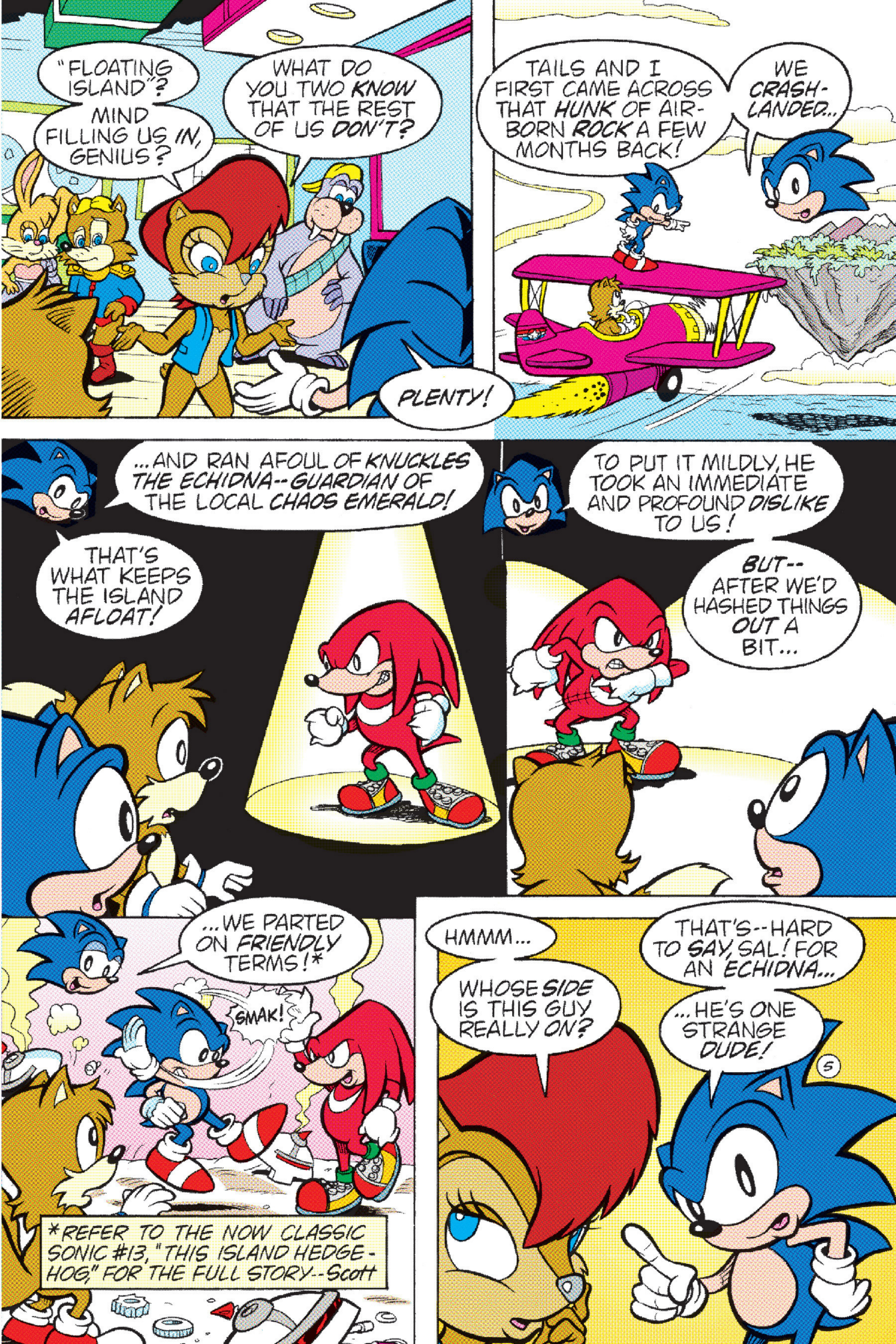
Recently host to a great battle between Dr. Robotnik and the spearhead of **Knothole Village's** resistance, **Sonic The Hedgehog**, the Floating Island again stands alone as a safe haven from the war that rages unchecked, below.

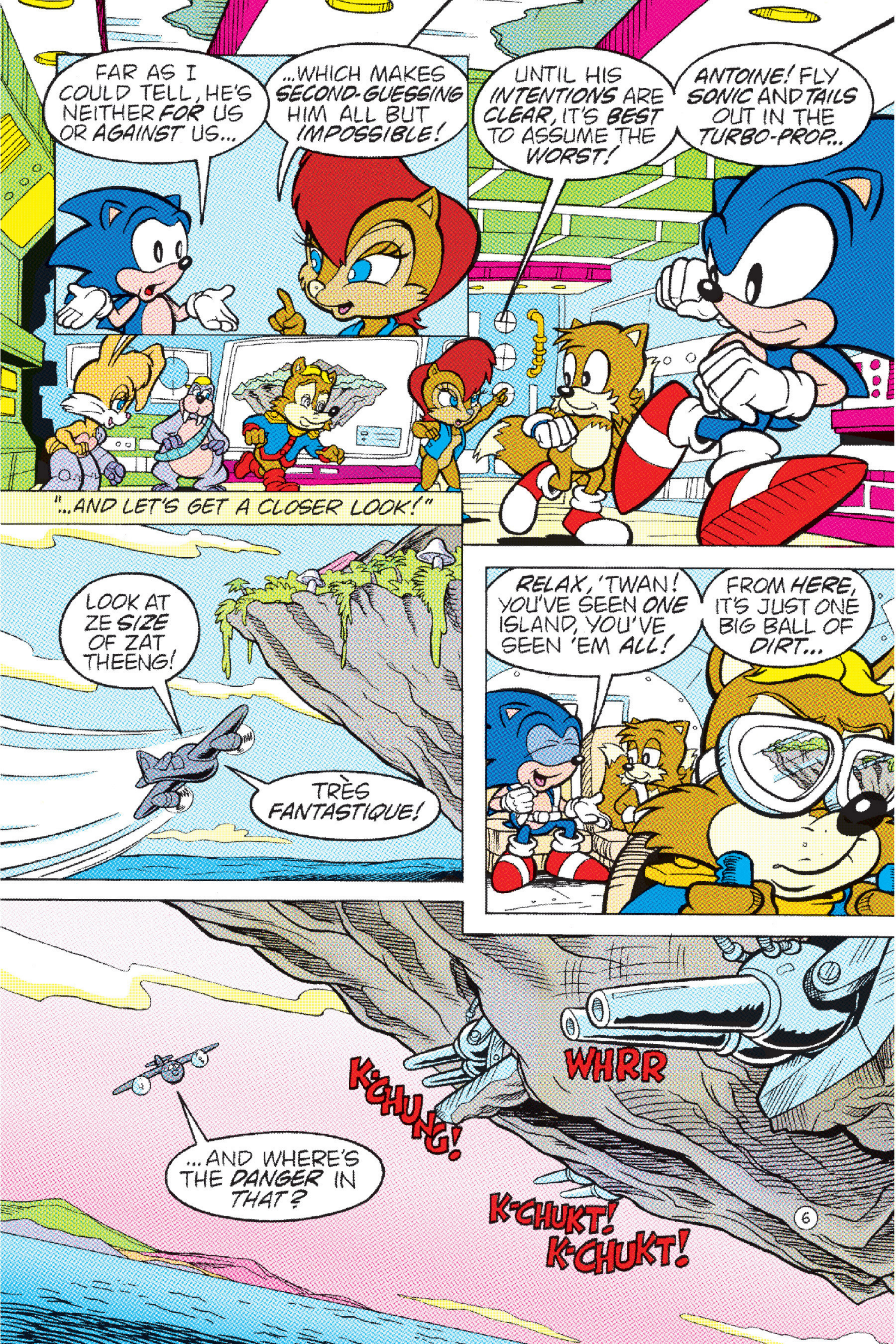
But for how long?

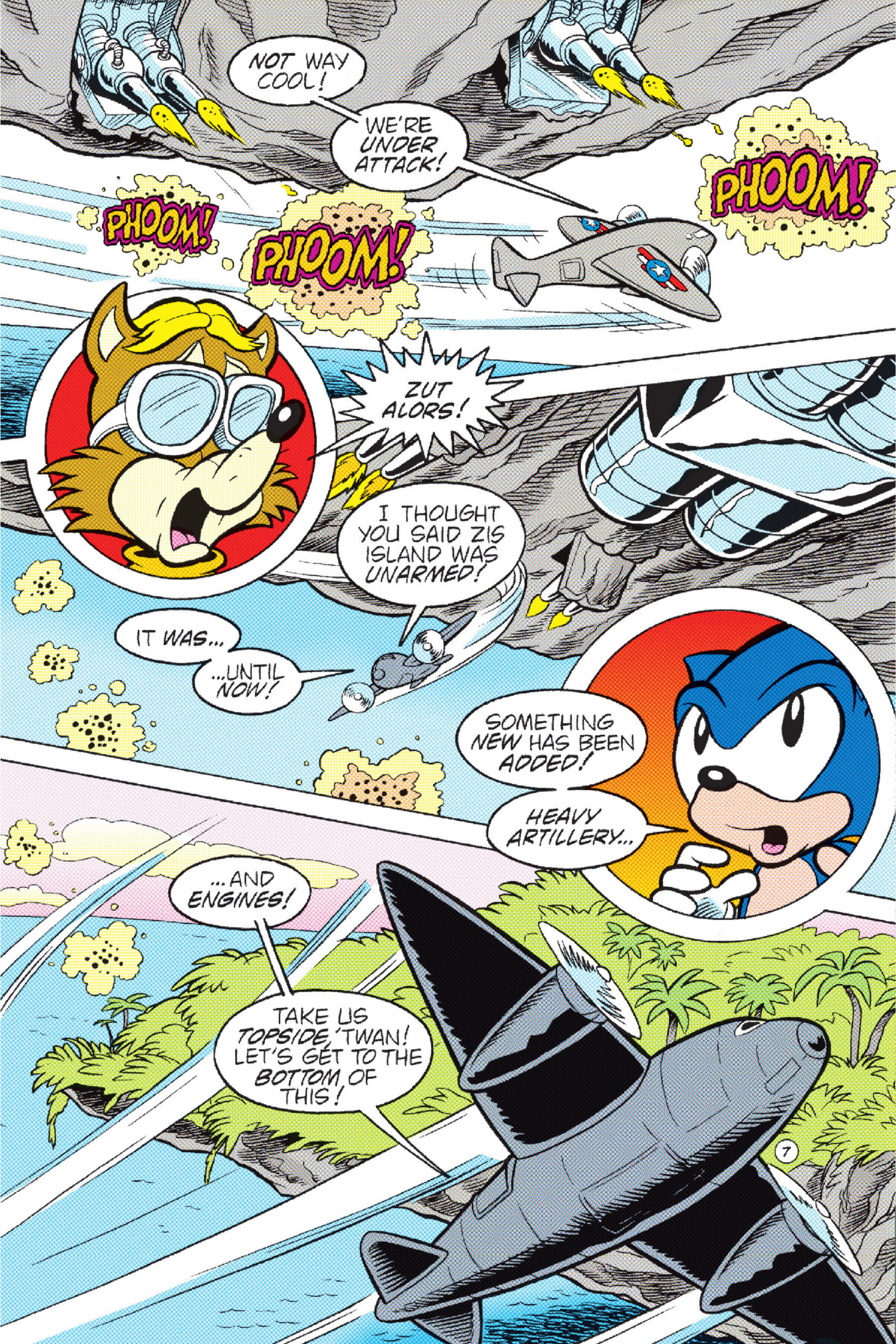

PROLOGUE:
THE WESTERN COAST OF THE GREAT CONTINENT.
12:17 PM
THOUGH PRONE TO EARTHQUAKES, MUDSLIDES, FIRES AND FLOODS...
...IT REMAINS ONE OF THE FEW REGIONS ON MOBIUS TO REMAIN UNSCARRED BY CONFLICT!
HERE, THE NATIVES CAN FROLIC AND ROMP WITHOUT CARE!
OR AT LEAST THEY COULD...
WHAP!

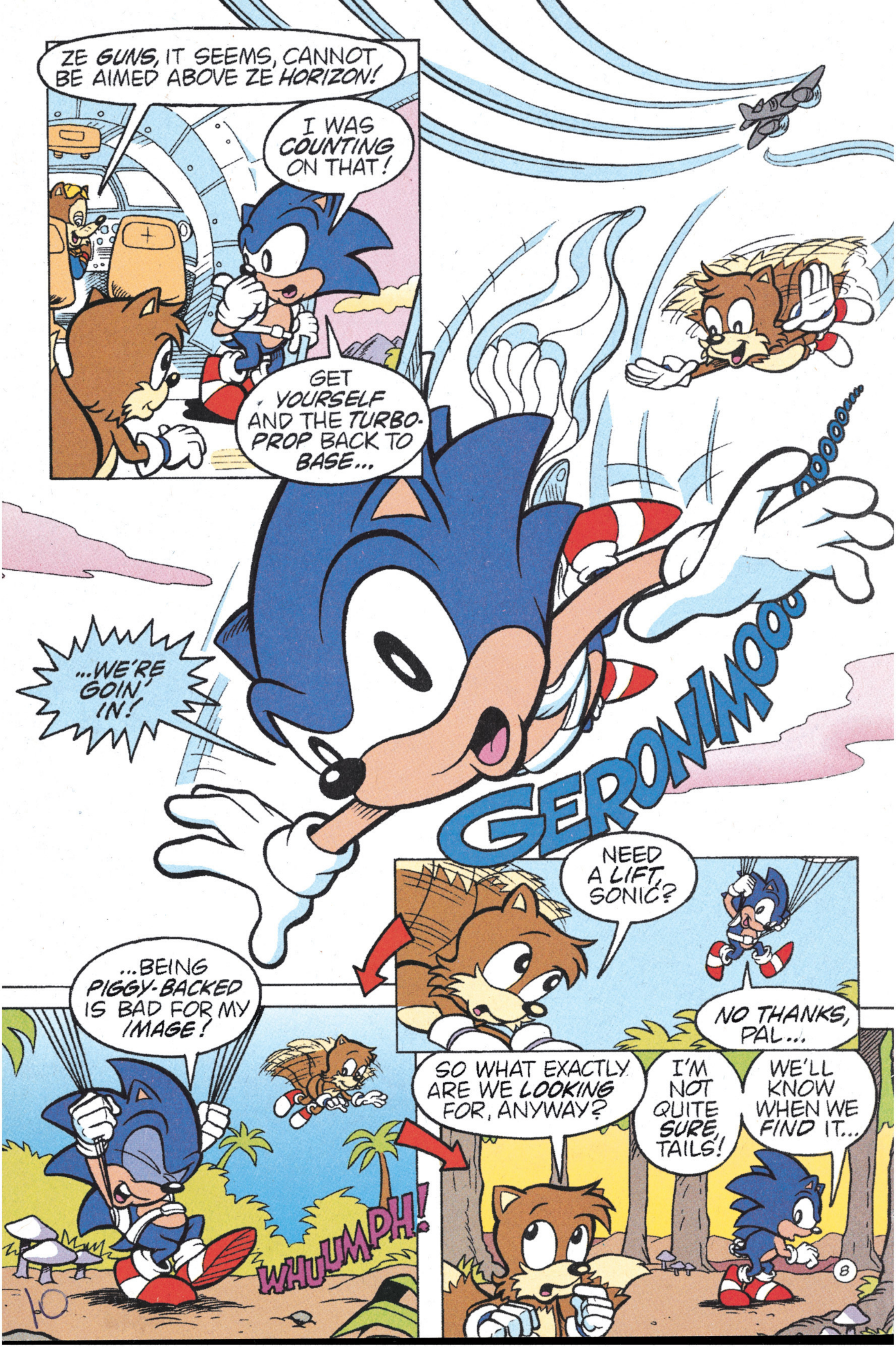

...UNTIL TODAY!
SONIC & KNUCKLES™ IN
PANIC IN THE SKY!
PART 1
SOUND THE ALARM!
IT'S A CONTINENT!
A FLOATING CONTINENT!

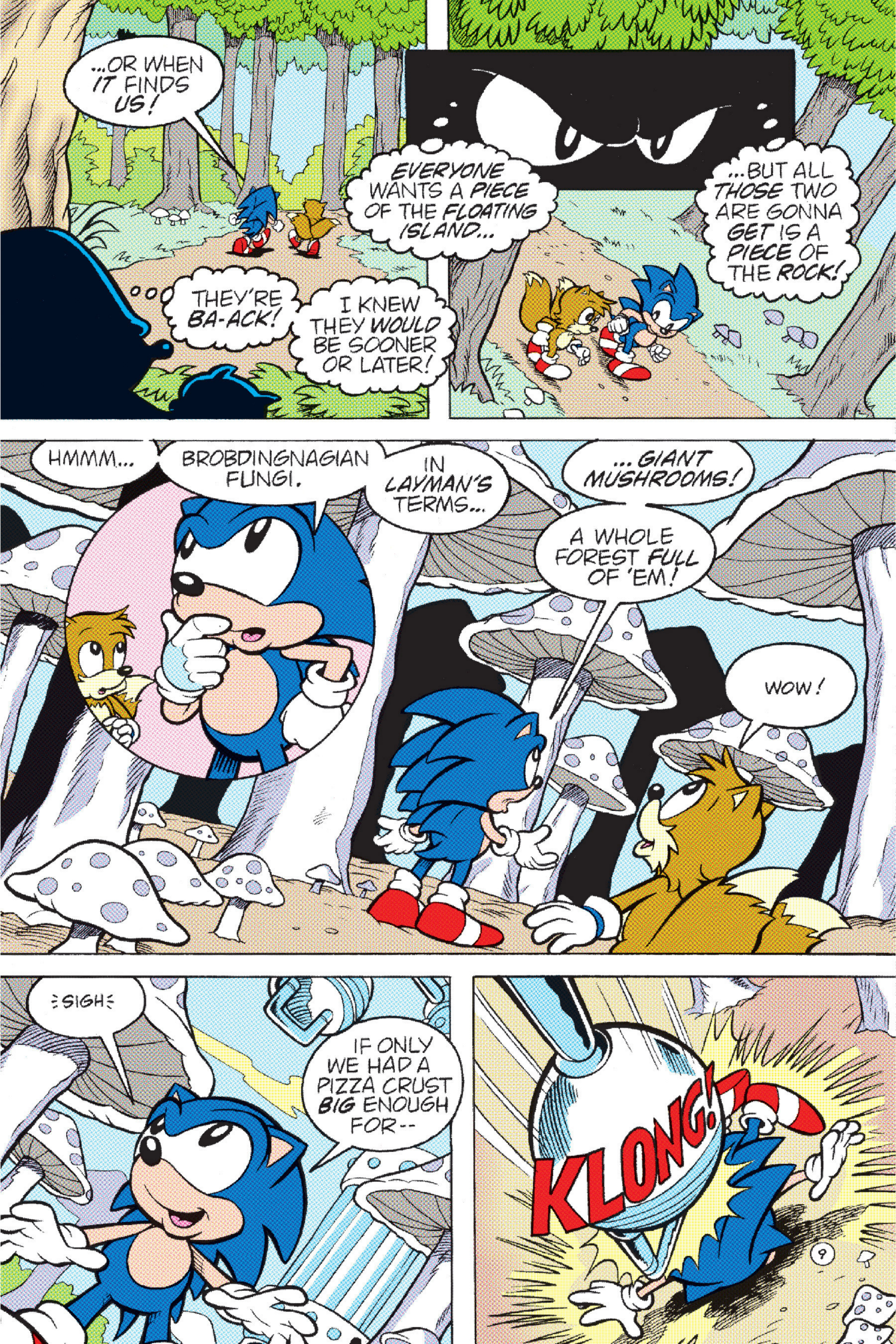

...THE LAND MASS WAS SIGHTED SEVERAL *HOURS* AGO, AS IT CROSSED OVER INTO OUR *AIR SPACE!*
WITNESSES CLAIMED THE *SKY* WAS *FALLING*-- THOUGH FROM WHAT I CAN *TELL*...
...EXACTLY THE *OPPOSITE* IS *TRUE!*
1:52 PM
AMAZING!
ANY IDEA WHAT'S KEEPING IT *ALOFT,* ROTOR?
I COULDN'T *TELL* YOU, PRINCESS!
BUT I *DO* KNOW *THIS*...
ACCORDING TO MY *READINGS*...
...IT'S HEADED *STRAIGHT* FOR *KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!*
BEACH
ISLAND
KNOTHOLE VILLAGE
TAP TAP
HI, GANG! DID WE MISS ANYTHING?
PLENTY!
AND YOU *WOULDN'T* HAVE IF YOU HAD THE COMMON *COURTESY* TO--
HOLY--!
IT'S THE *FLOATING ISLAND!*

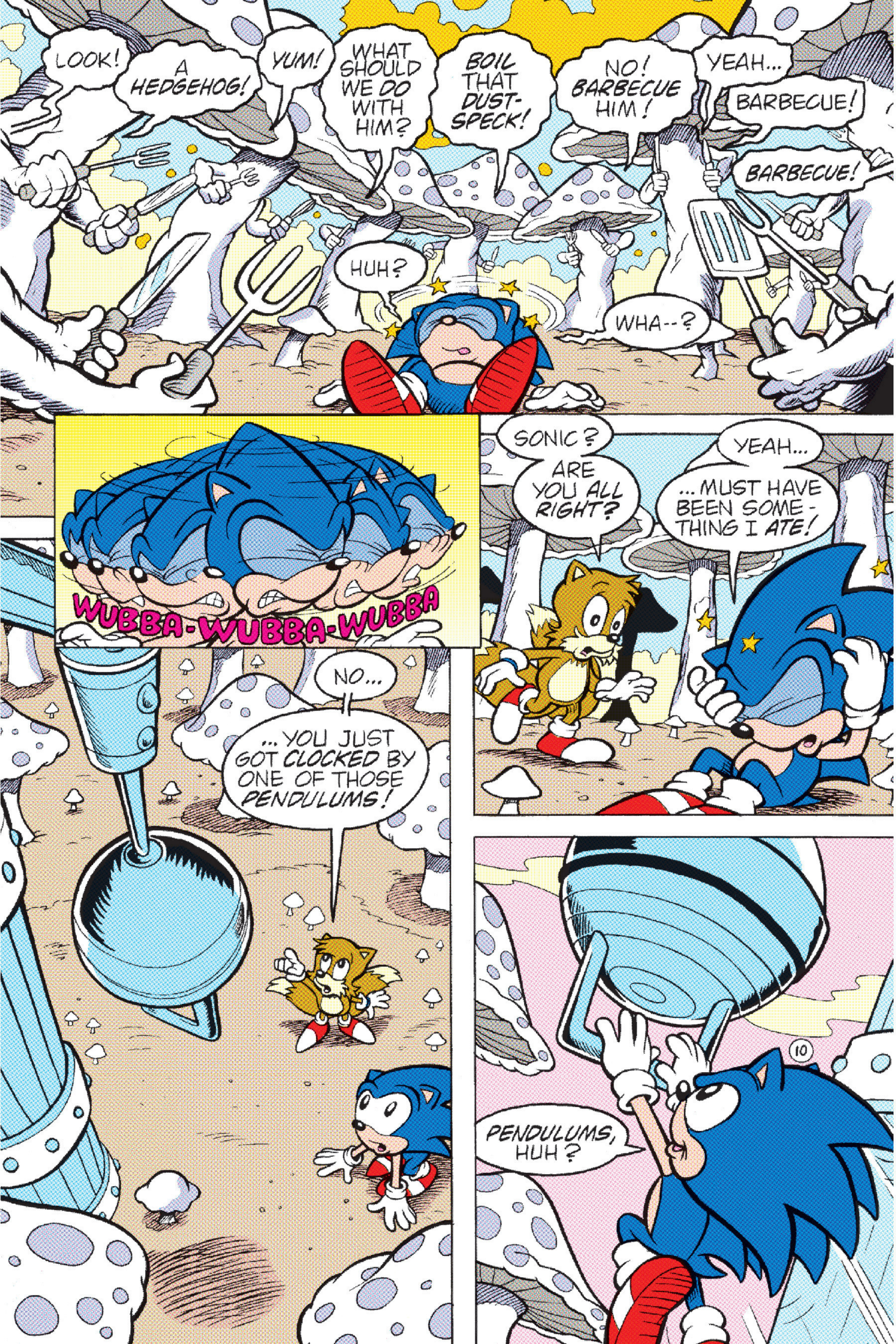

"FLOATING ISLAND"? MIND FILLING US *IN*, GENIUS?
WHAT DO YOU TWO *KNOW* THAT THE REST OF US *DON'T*?
PLENTY!
TAILS AND I FIRST CAME ACROSS THAT *HUNK* OF AIR-BORN *ROCK* A FEW MONTHS BACK!
WE *CRASH-LANDED*...
...AND RAN AFOUL OF *KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA*--GUARDIAN OF THE LOCAL *CHAOS EMERALD!*
THAT'S WHAT KEEPS THE ISLAND *AFLOAT!*
TO PUT IT MILDLY, HE TOOK AN IMMEDIATE AND PROFOUND *DISLIKE* TO US!
BUT-- AFTER WE'D HASHED THINGS *OUT* A BIT...
...WE PARTED ON *FRIENDLY* TERMS!*
SMAK!
*REFER TO THE NOW CLASSIC SONIC #13, "THIS ISLAND HEDGE-HOG," FOR THE FULL STORY--Scott
HMMM...
WHOSE *SIDE* IS THIS GUY REALLY *ON*?
THAT'S--HARD TO *SAY*, SAL! FOR AN *ECHIDNA*...
...HE'S ONE STRANGE *DUDE!*
5

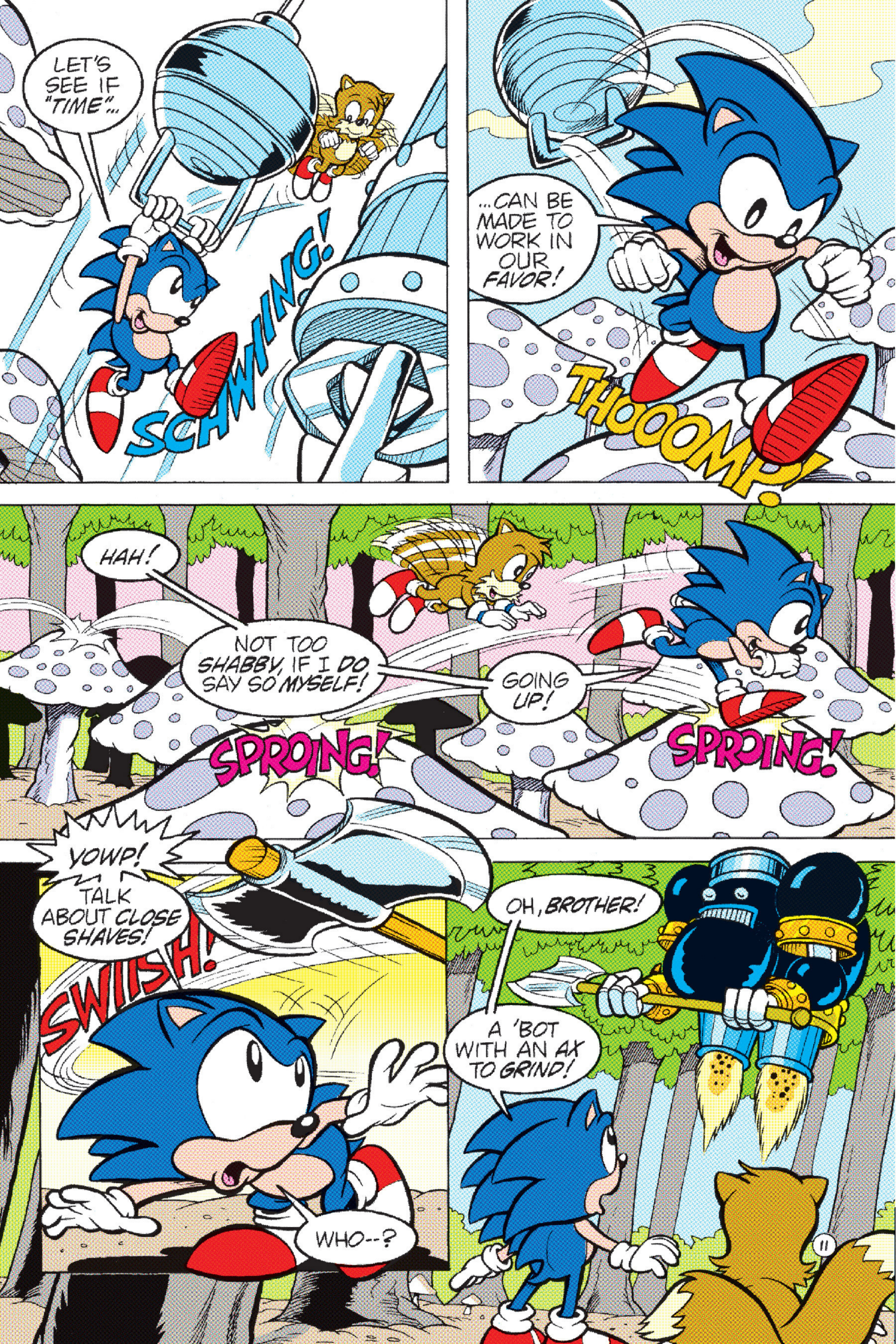

FAR AS I COULD TELL, HE'S NEITHER *FOR* US OR *AGAINST* US...
...WHICH MAKES ***SECOND-GUESSING*** HIM ALL BUT *IMPOSSIBLE!*
UNTIL HIS *INTENTIONS* ARE ***CLEAR***, IT'S ***BEST*** TO ASSUME THE ***WORST!***
ANTOINE! FLY ***SONIC*** AND ***TAILS*** OUT IN THE *TURBO-PROP...*
"...AND LET'S GET A CLOSER LOOK!"
LOOK AT ZE ***SIZE*** OF ZAT THEENG!
TRÈS *FANTASTIQUE!*
RELAX, 'TWAN! YOU'VE SEEN ***ONE*** ISLAND, YOU'VE SEEN 'EM ***ALL!***
FROM *HERE*, IT'S JUST ONE BIG BALL OF *DIRT...*
...AND WHERE'S THE *DANGER* IN *THAT?*
K-CHUNG!
WHRR
K-CHUKT! K-CHUKT!

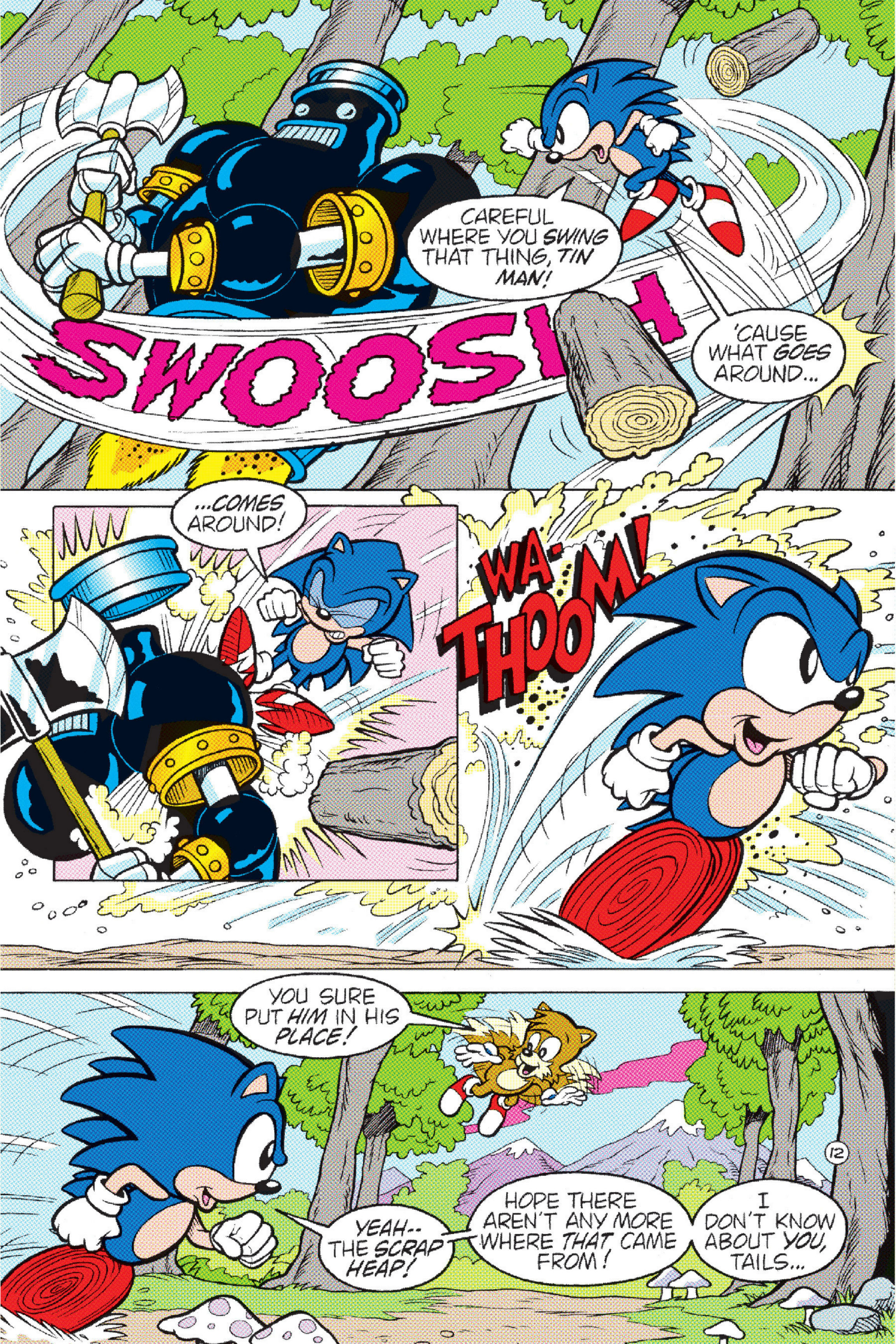

NOT WAY COOL!
WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
PHOOM!
PHOOM!
PHOOM!
ZUT ALORS!
I THOUGHT YOU SAID ZIS ISLAND WAS UNARMED!
IT WAS...
...UNTIL NOW!
SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED!
HEAVY ARTILLERY...
...AND ENGINES!
TAKE US TOPSIDE, 'TWAN! LET'S GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!
7

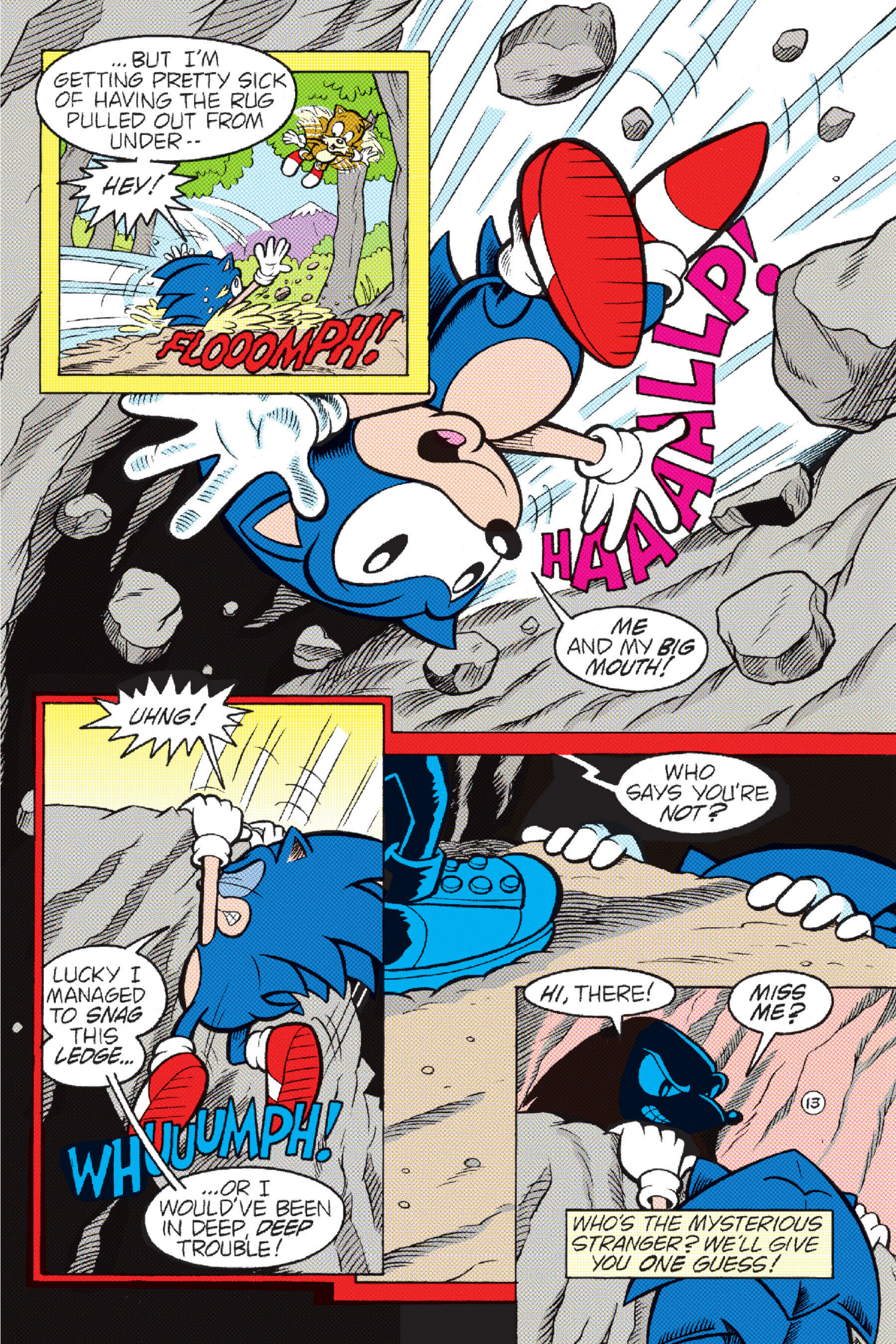

ZE *GUNS*, IT SEEMS, CANNOT BE AIMED ABOVE ZE *HORIZON*!
I WAS *COUNTING* ON THAT!
GET *YOURSELF* AND THE *TURBO-PROP* BACK TO *BASE*...
...WE'RE GOIN' IN!
GERONIMOOOOOOOOOOO...
NEED A *LIFT*, SONIC?
NO THANKS, PAL...
...BEING *PIGGY-BACKED* IS BAD FOR MY *IMAGE*!
WHUUMPH!
SO WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE *LOOKING* FOR, ANYWAY?
I'M NOT QUITE *SURE*, TAILS!
WE'LL KNOW WHEN WE *FIND* IT...


...OR WHEN *IT* FINDS *US*!
THEY'RE *BA-ACK*!
I KNEW THEY *WOULD* BE SOONER OR LATER!
EVERYONE WANTS A *PIECE* OF THE *FLOATING ISLAND*...
...BUT ALL *THOSE* TWO ARE GONNA *GET* IS A *PIECE* OF THE *ROCK*!
HMMM...
BROBDINGNAGIAN FUNGI.
IN *LAYMAN'S* TERMS...
...*GIANT MUSHROOMS*!
A WHOLE FOREST *FULL* OF 'EM!
WOW!
SIGH
IF ONLY WE HAD A PIZZA CRUST *BIG* ENOUGH FOR--
KLONG!

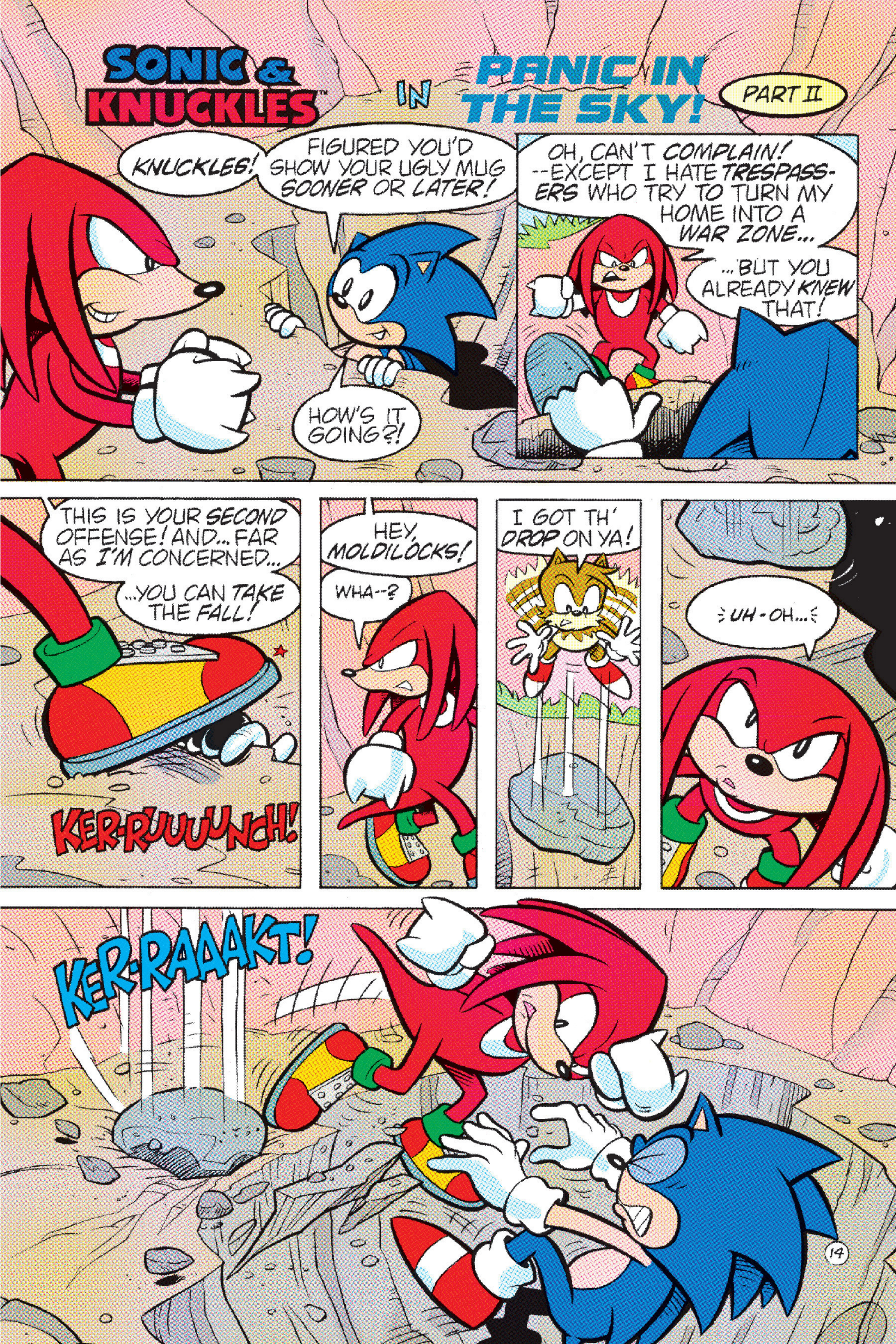

LOOK!
A HEDGEHOG!
YUM!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HIM?
BOIL THAT DUST-SPECK!
NO! BARBECUE HIM!
YEAH...
BARBECUE!
BARBECUE!
HUH?
WHA--?
WUBBA-WUBBA-WUBBA
SONIC? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH... ...MUST HAVE BEEN SOME-THING I ATE!
NO... ...YOU JUST GOT CLOCKED BY ONE OF THOSE PENDULUMS!
PENDULUMS, HUH?

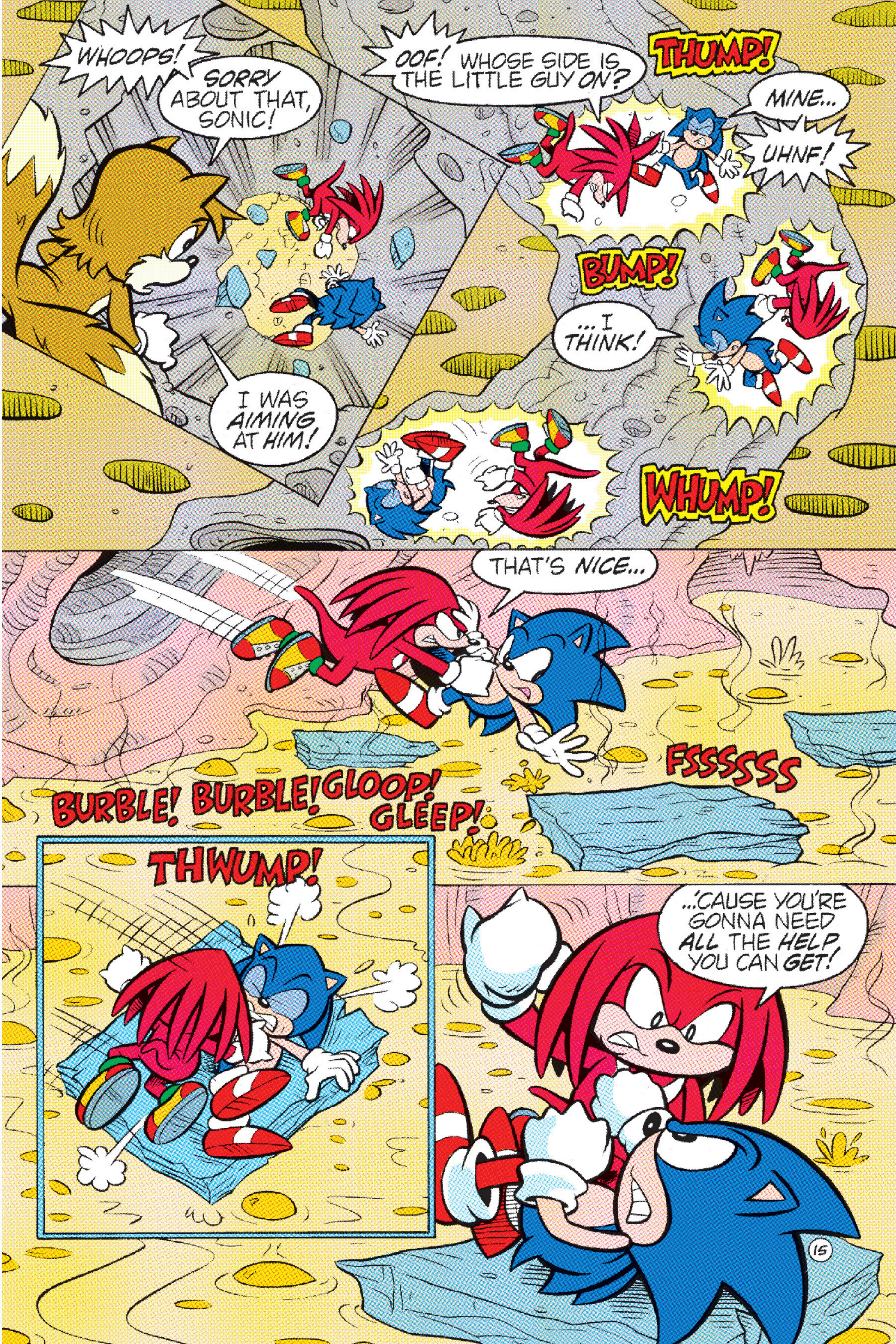

LET'S SEE IF "TIME"...
SCHWIING!
...CAN BE MADE TO WORK IN OUR FAVOR!
THOOOMP!
HAH!
NOT TOO SHABBY, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
GOING UP!
SPROING!
SPROING!
YOWP! TALK ABOUT CLOSE SHAVES!
SWIISH!
WHO--?
OH, BROTHER!
A 'BOT WITH AN AX TO GRIND!
!!

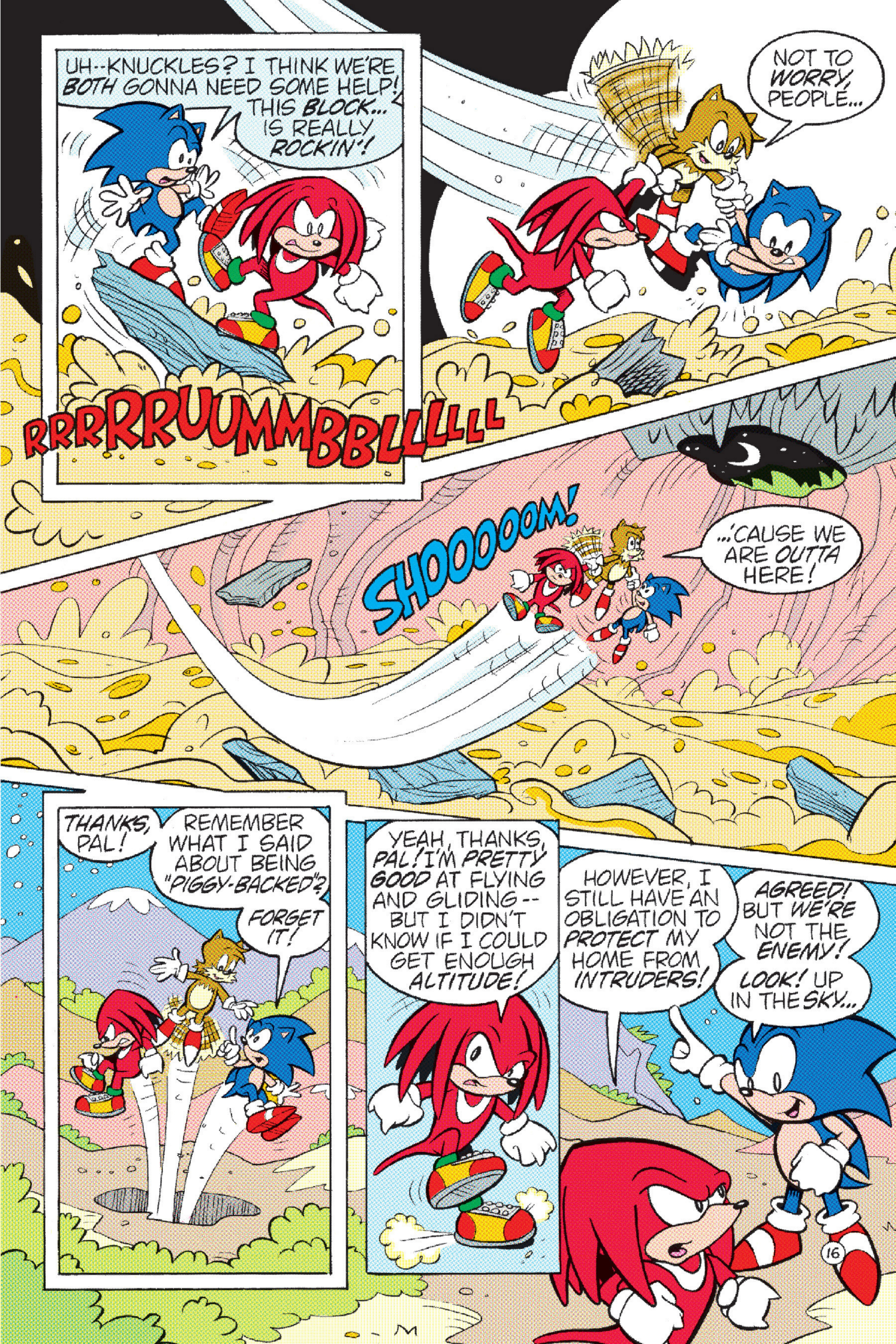

CAREFUL WHERE YOU *SWING* THAT THING, *TIN MAN!*
SWOOSH
'CAUSE WHAT *GOES* AROUND...
...*COMES* AROUND!
WA-THOOM!
YOU SURE PUT *HIM* IN HIS *PLACE!*
YEAH.. THE SCRAP HEAP!
HOPE THERE AREN'T ANY MORE WHERE *THAT* CAME FROM!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT *YOU,* TAILS...

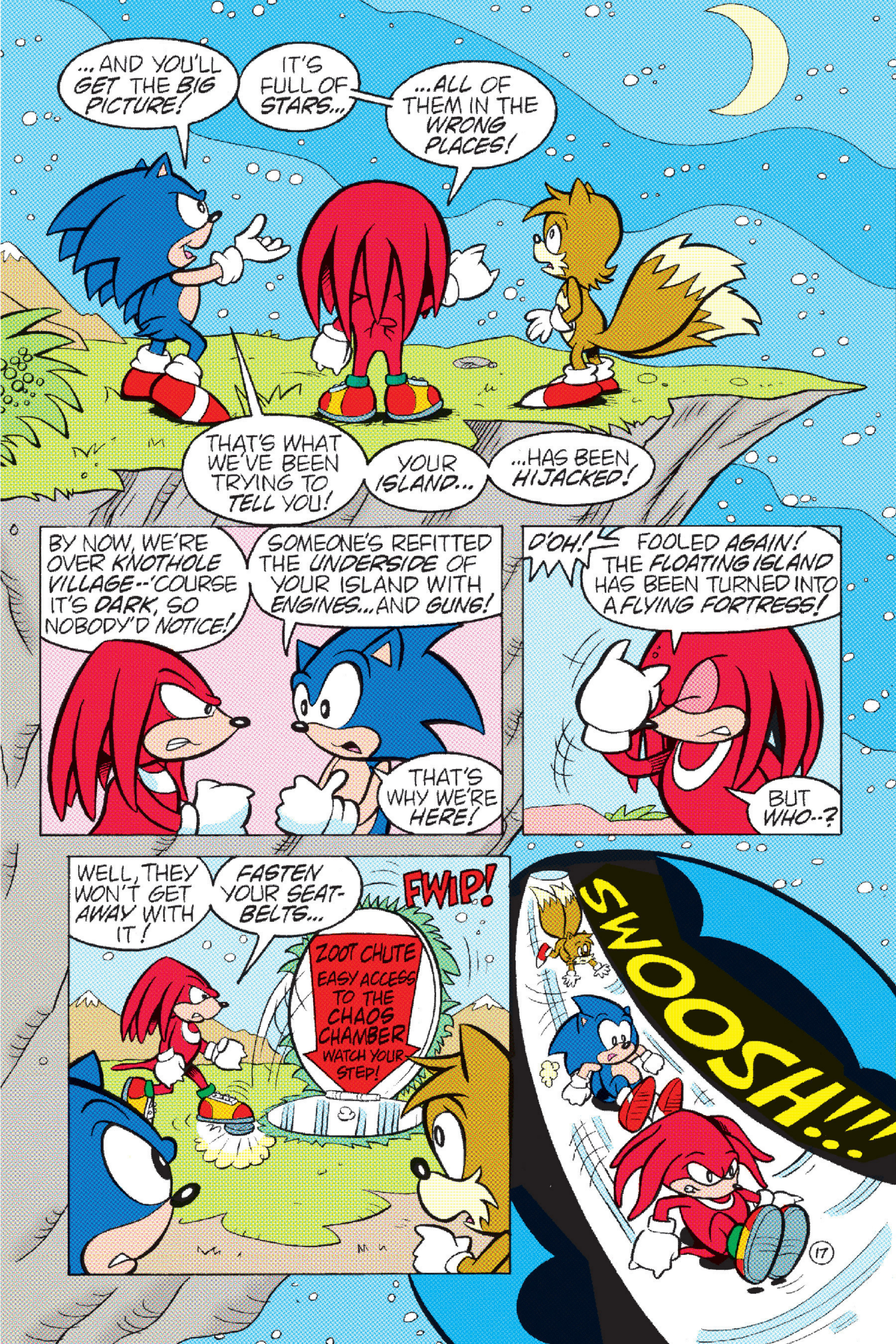

...BUT I'M GETTING PRETTY SICK OF HAVING THE RUG PULLED OUT FROM UNDER--
HEY!
FLOOOMPH!
HAAAAHLLP!
ME AND MY *BIG* MOUTH!
UHNG!
LUCKY I MANAGED TO *SNAG* THIS *LEDGE*...
WHUUUUMPH!
...OR I WOULD'VE BEEN IN DEEP, *DEEP* TROUBLE!
WHO SAYS YOU'RE *NOT*?
HI, THERE!
MISS ME?
WHO'S THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER? WE'LL GIVE YOU *ONE* GUESS!

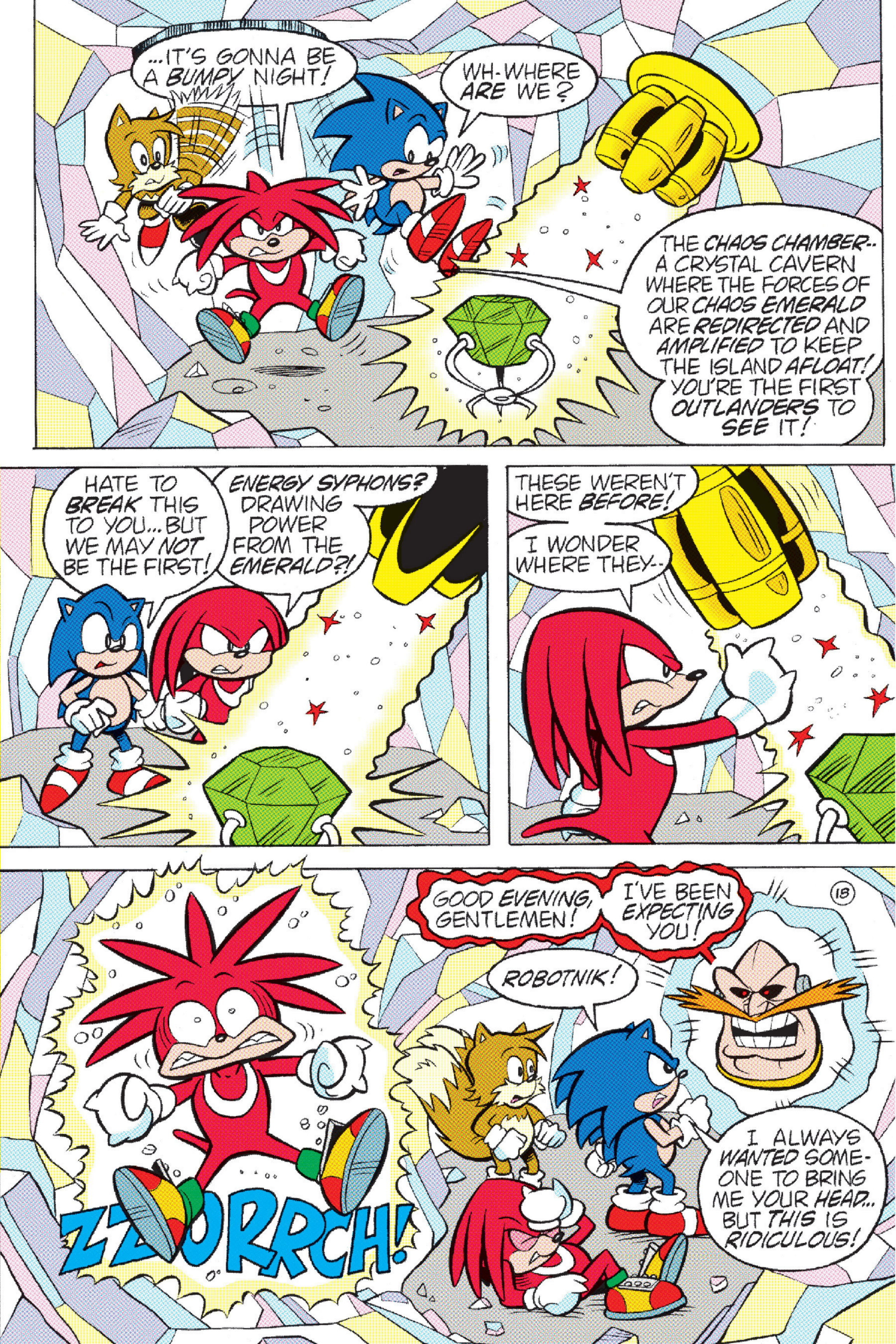
SONIC & KNUCKLES™ IN PANIC IN THE SKY! PART II

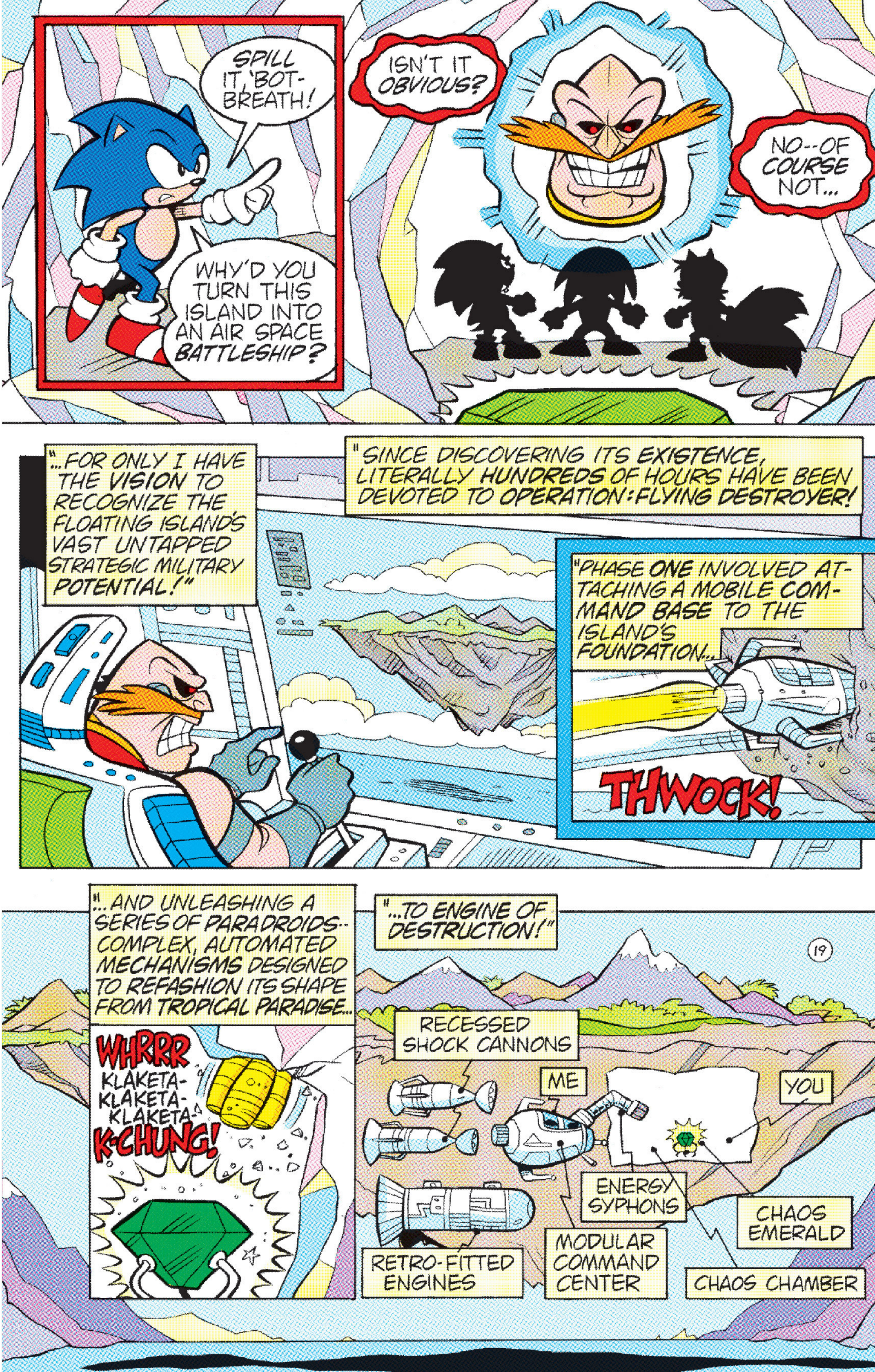

KNUCKLES!
FIGURED YOU'D SHOW YOUR UGLY MUG SOONER OR LATER!
HOW'S IT GOING?!
OH, CAN'T COMPLAIN! --EXCEPT I HATE TRESPASSERS WHO TRY TO TURN MY HOME INTO A WAR ZONE...
...BUT YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT!
THIS IS YOUR SECOND OFFENSE! AND... FAR AS I'M CONCERNED...
...YOU CAN TAKE THE FALL!
KER-RUUUUNCH!
HEY, MOLDILOCKS!
WHA--?
I GOT TH' DROP ON YA!
UH-OH...
KER-RAAAKT!

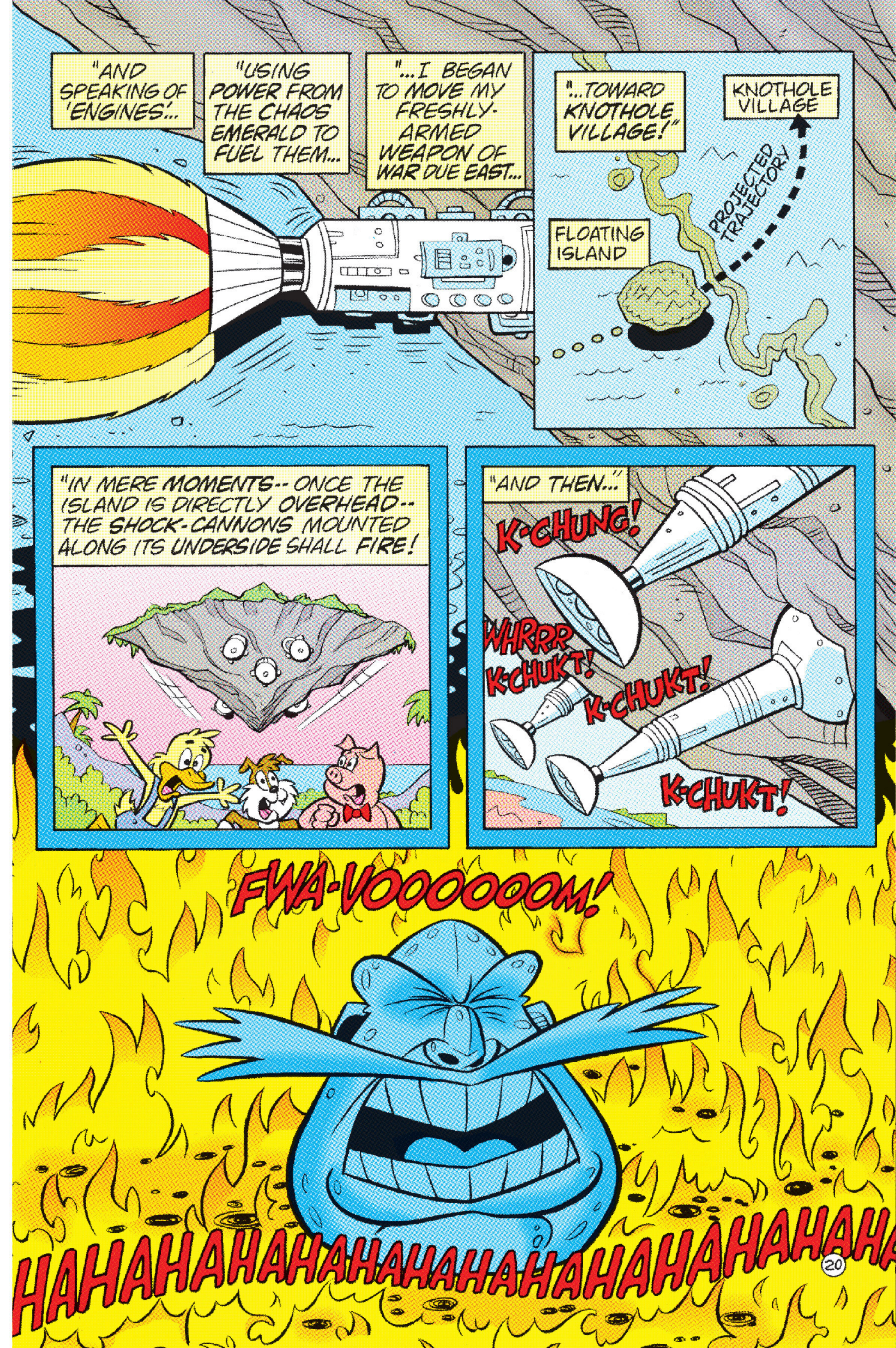

WHOOPS!
SORRY ABOUT THAT, SONIC!
I WAS AIMING AT HIM!
OOF! WHOSE SIDE IS THE LITTLE GUY ON?
THUMP!
MINE...
UHNF!
BUMP!
...I THINK!
WHUMP!
THAT'S NICE...
FSSSSSS
BURBLE! BURBLE! GLOOP! GLEEP!
THWUMP!
...'CAUSE YOU'RE GONNA NEED ALL THE HELP YOU CAN GET!

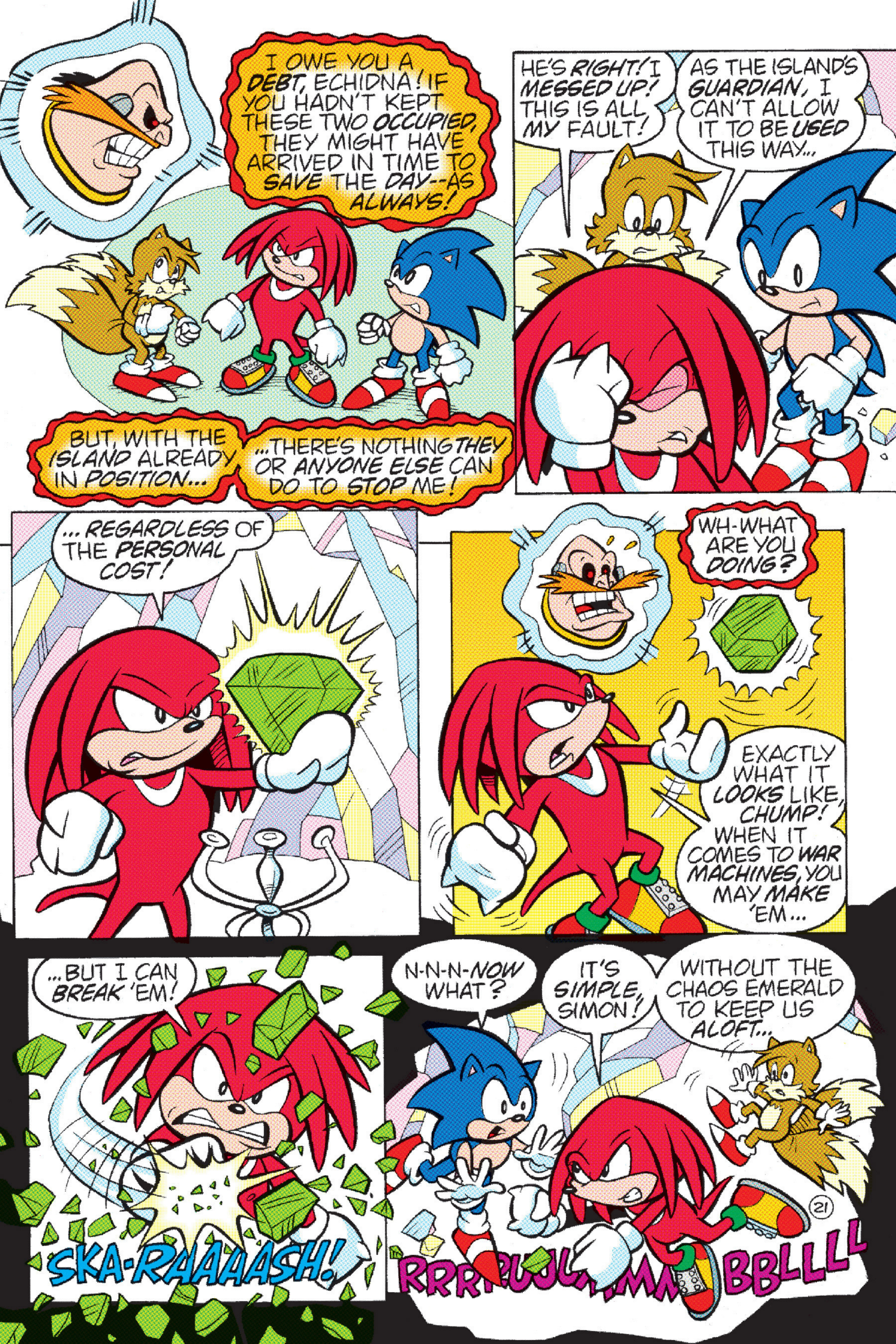

UH--KNUCKLES? I THINK WE'RE BOTH GONNA NEED SOME HELP! THIS BLOCK... IS REALLY ROCKIN'!
RRRRRUUMMBBLLLLLL
NOT TO WORRY, PEOPLE...
SHOOOOOM!
...'CAUSE WE ARE OUTTA HERE!
THANKS, PAL!
REMEMBER WHAT I SAID ABOUT BEING "PIGGY-BACKED"? FORGET IT!
YEAH, THANKS, PAL! I'M PRETTY GOOD AT FLYING AND GLIDING -- BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IF I COULD GET ENOUGH ALTITUDE!
HOWEVER, I STILL HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PROTECT MY HOME FROM INTRUDERS!
AGREED! BUT WE'RE NOT THE ENEMY! LOOK! UP IN THE SKY...

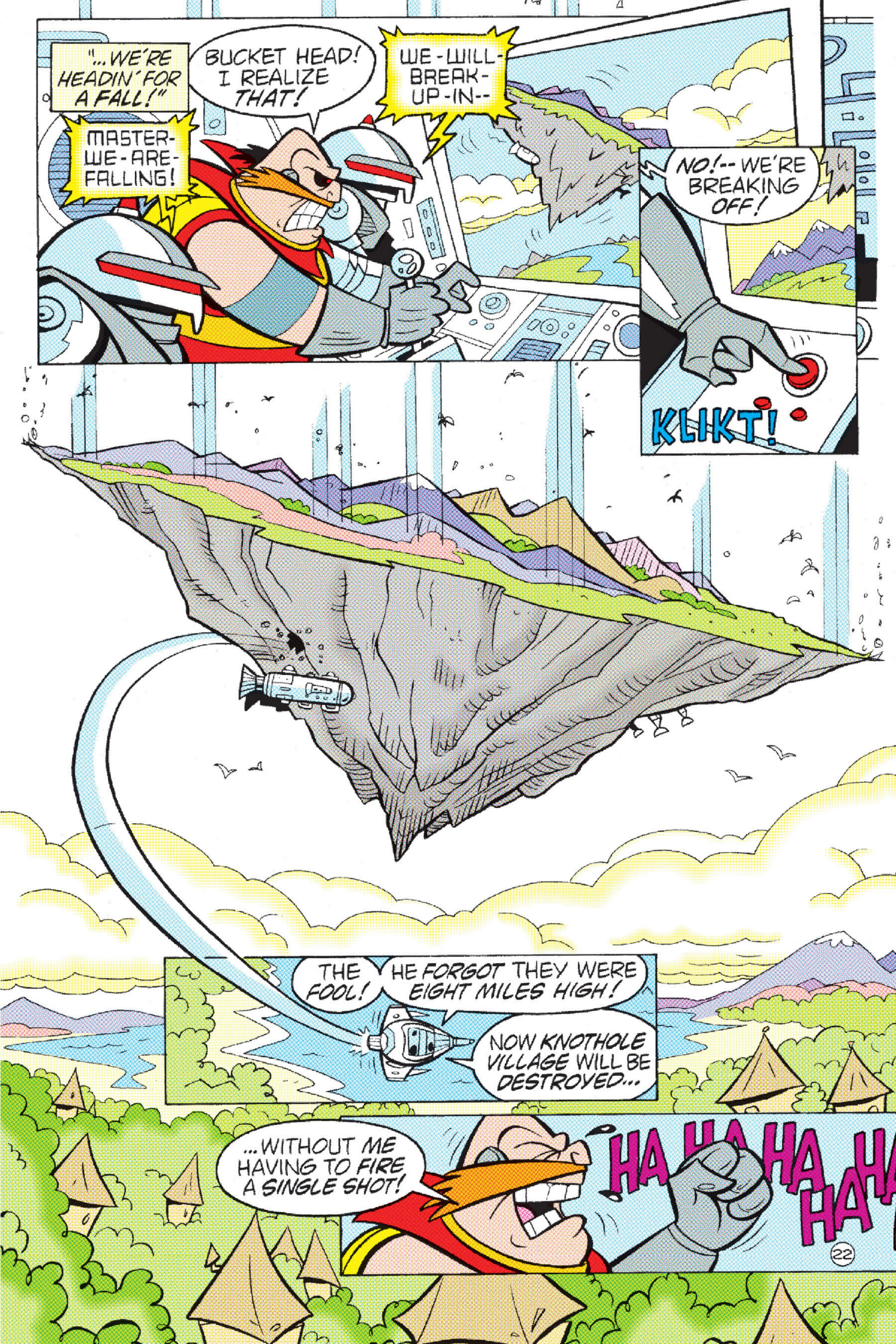

...AND YOU'LL GET THE BIG PICTURE!
IT'S FULL OF STARS...
...ALL OF THEM IN THE WRONG PLACES!
THAT'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL YOU!
YOUR ISLAND...
...HAS BEEN HIJACKED!
BY NOW, WE'RE OVER KNOTHOLE VILLAGE--'COURSE IT'S DARK, SO NOBODY'D NOTICE!
SOMEONE'S REFITTED THE UNDERSIDE OF YOUR ISLAND WITH ENGINES...AND GUNS!
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE!
D'OH!
FOOLED AGAIN! THE FLOATING ISLAND HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A FLYING FORTRESS!
BUT WHO--?
WELL, THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT!
FASTEN YOUR SEAT-BELTS...
FWIP!
ZOOT CHUTE EASY ACCESS TO THE CHAOS CHAMBER WATCH YOUR STEP!
SWOOSH!!!

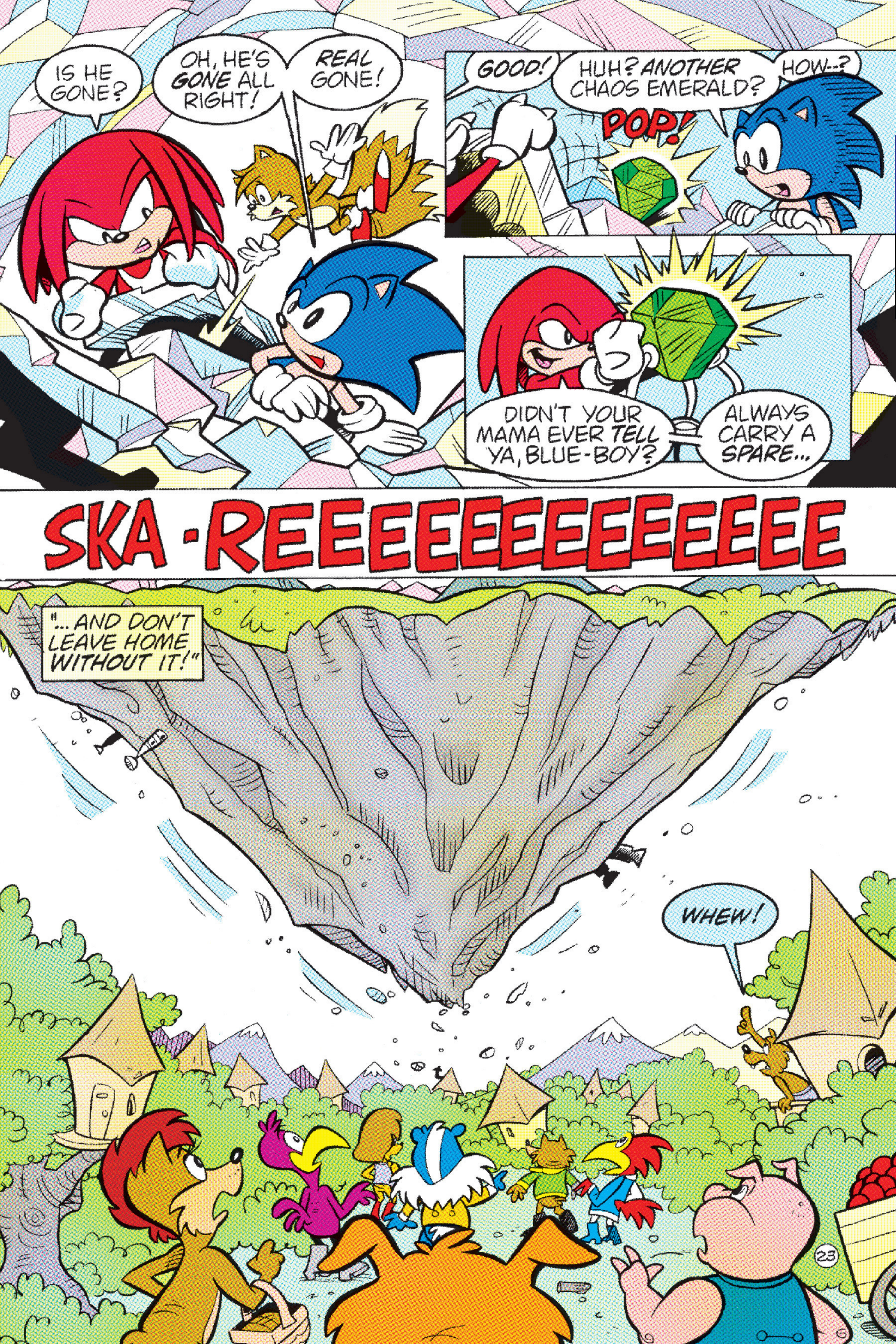

...IT'S GONNA BE A *BUMPY* NIGHT!
WH-WHERE *ARE* WE?
THE *CHAOS CHAMBER*.. A CRYSTAL CAVERN WHERE THE FORCES OF OUR *CHAOS EMERALD* ARE *REDIRECTED* AND *AMPLIFIED* TO KEEP THE ISLAND *AFLOAT*! YOU'RE THE FIRST *OUTLANDERS* TO *SEE* IT!
HATE TO *BREAK* THIS TO YOU...BUT WE MAY *NOT* BE THE FIRST!
ENERGY SYPHONS? DRAWING POWER FROM THE *EMERALD?!*
THESE WEREN'T HERE *BEFORE*!
I WONDER WHERE THEY-.
ZZORRRCH!
GOOD *EVENING*, GENTLEMEN!
I'VE BEEN *EXPECTING* YOU!
18
ROBOTNIK!
I ALWAYS *WANTED* SOME-ONE TO BRING ME YOUR *HEAD*.. BUT *THIS* IS *RIDICULOUS*!

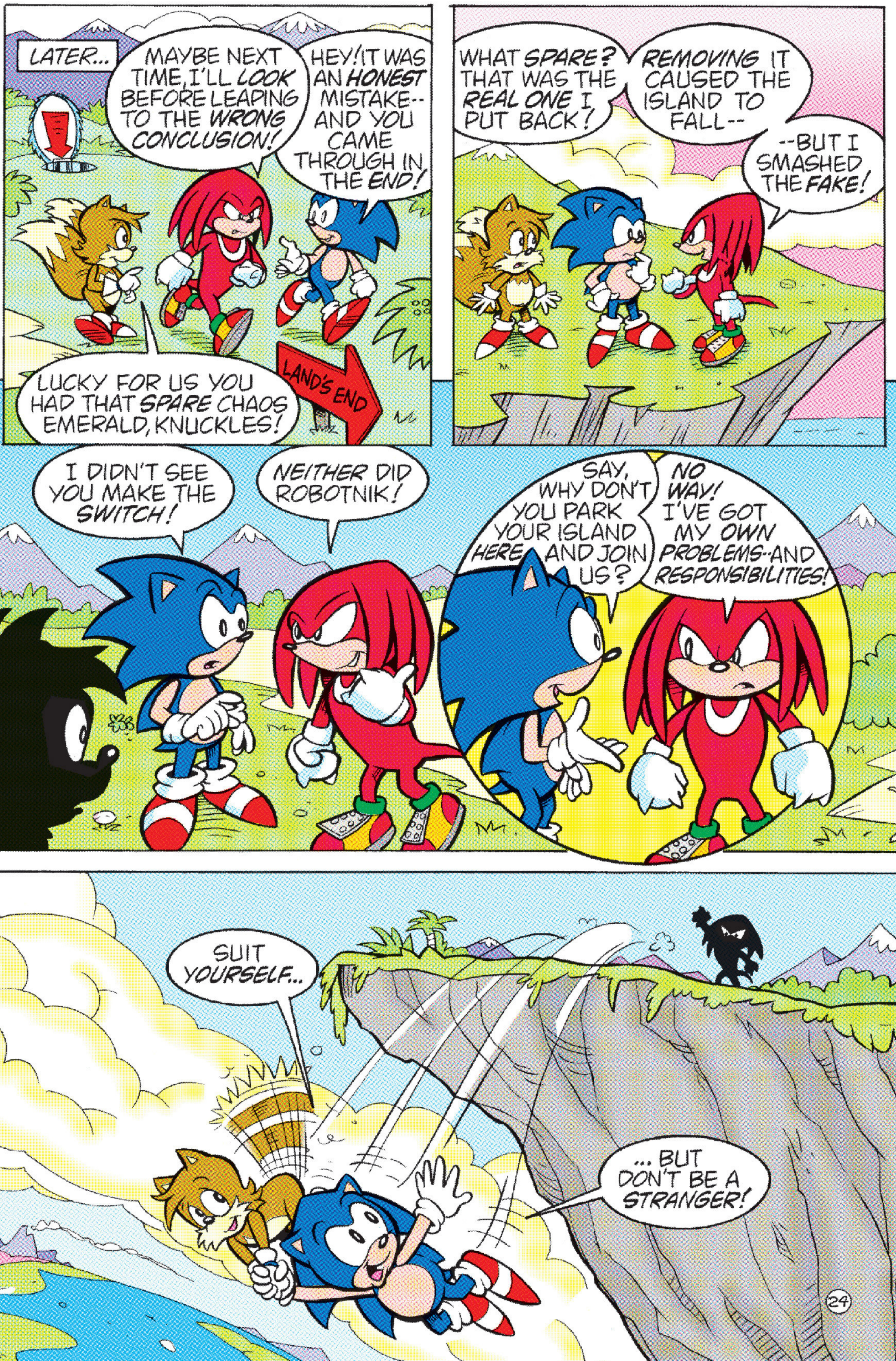

SPILL IT, 'BOT-BREATH!
WHY'D YOU TURN THIS ISLAND INTO AN AIR SPACE BATTLESHIP?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
NO--OF COURSE NOT...
"...FOR ONLY I HAVE THE VISION TO RECOGNIZE THE FLOATING ISLAND'S VAST UNTAPPED STRATEGIC MILITARY POTENTIAL!"
"SINCE DISCOVERING ITS EXISTENCE, LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF HOURS HAVE BEEN DEVOTED TO OPERATION: FLYING DESTROYER!
"PHASE ONE INVOLVED ATTACHING A MOBILE COMMAND BASE TO THE ISLAND'S FOUNDATION...
THWOCK!
"...AND UNLEASHING A SERIES OF PARADROIDS--COMPLEX, AUTOMATED MECHANISMS DESIGNED TO REFASHION ITS SHAPE FROM TROPICAL PARADISE...
"...TO ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION!"
WHRRR KLAKETA-KLAKETA-KLAKETA-K-CHUNG!
RECESSED SHOCK CANNONS
ME
YOU
ENERGY SYPHONS
CHAOS EMERALD
RETRO-FITTED ENGINES
MODULAR COMMAND CENTER
CHAOS CHAMBER

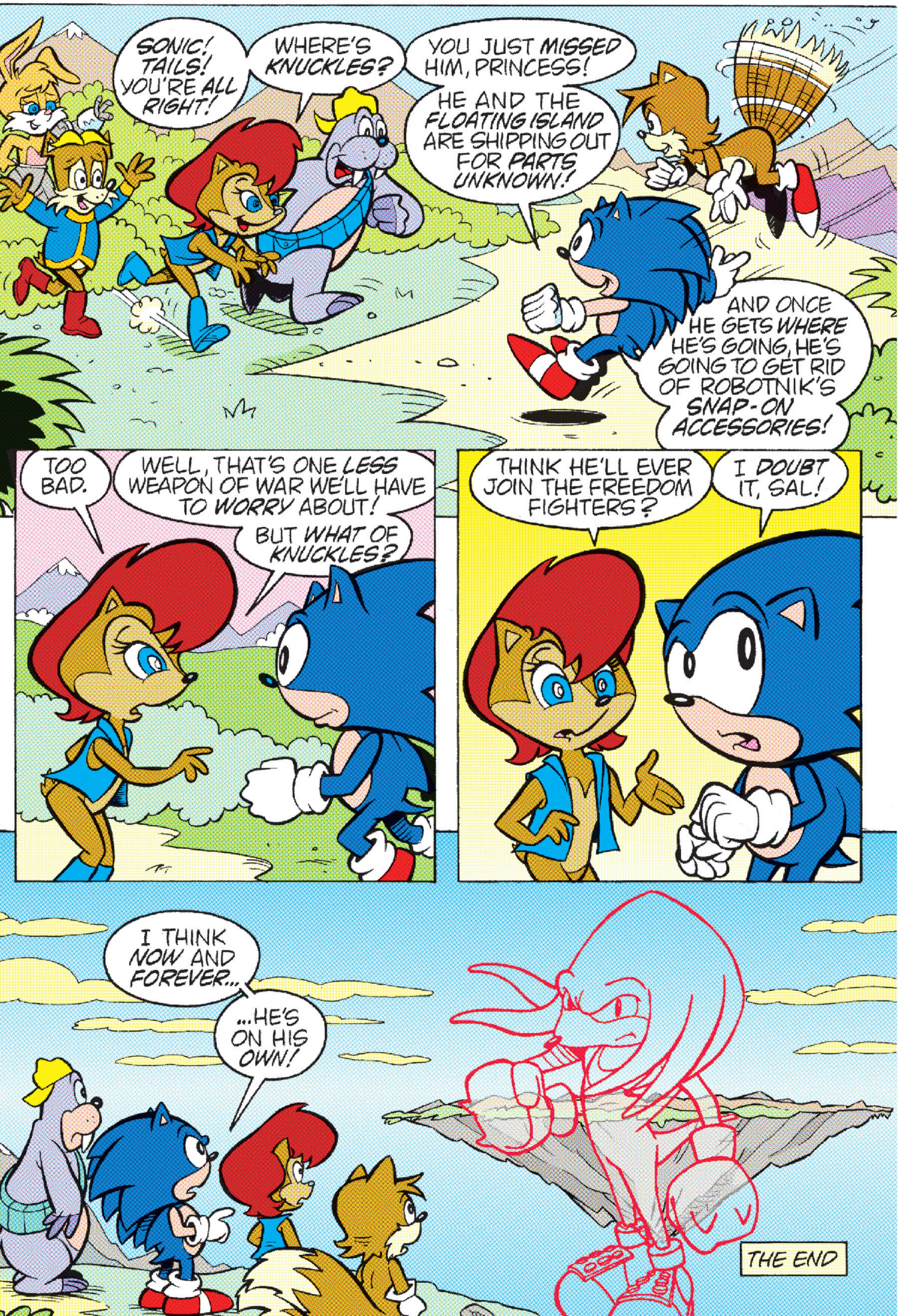

"AND SPEAKING OF 'ENGINES'...
"USING POWER FROM THE CHAOS EMERALD TO FUEL THEM...
"...I BEGAN TO MOVE MY FRESHLY-ARMED WEAPON OF WAR DUE EAST...
"...TOWARD KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!"
KNOTHOLE VILLAGE
PROJECTED TRAJECTORY
FLOATING ISLAND
"IN MERE MOMENTS-- ONCE THE ISLAND IS DIRECTLY OVERHEAD-- THE SHOCK-CANNONS MOUNTED ALONG ITS UNDERSIDE SHALL FIRE!
"AND THEN..."
K-CHUNG!
WHRRR
K-CHUKT!
K-CHUKT!
K-CHUKT!
FWA-VOOOOOOM!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

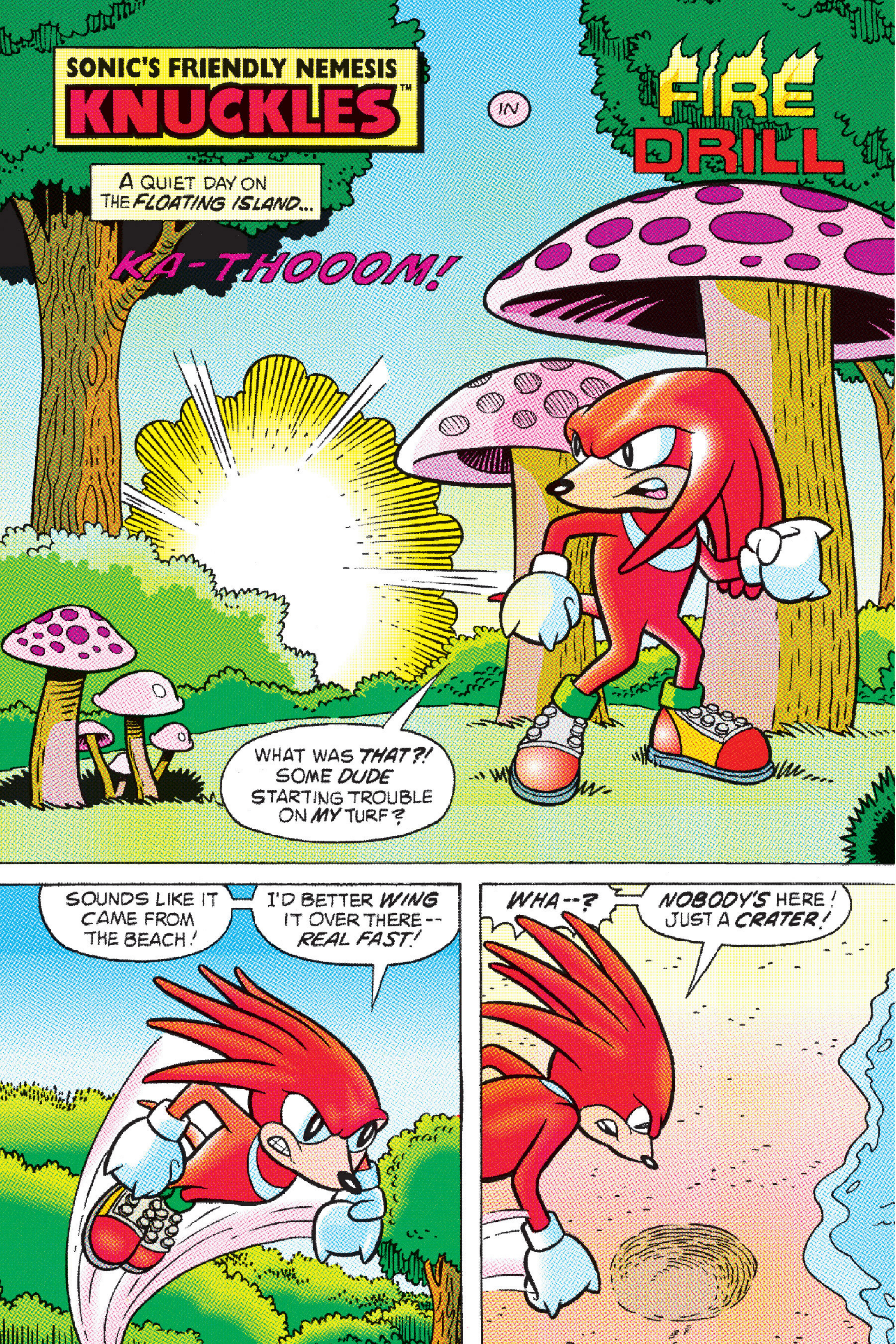

I OWE YOU A DEBT, ECHIDNA! IF YOU HADN'T KEPT THESE TWO OCCUPIED, THEY MIGHT HAVE ARRIVED IN TIME TO SAVE THE DAY--AS ALWAYS!
BUT, WITH THE ISLAND ALREADY IN POSITION...
...THERE'S NOTHING THEY OR ANYONE ELSE CAN DO TO STOP ME!
HE'S RIGHT! I MESSED UP! THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!
AS THE ISLAND'S GUARDIAN, I CAN'T ALLOW IT TO BE USED THIS WAY...
...REGARDLESS OF THE PERSONAL COST!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
EXACTLY WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE, CHUMP! WHEN IT COMES TO WAR MACHINES, YOU MAY MAKE 'EM...
...BUT I CAN BREAK 'EM!
SKA-RAAAAASH!
N-N-N-NOW WHAT?
IT'S SIMPLE, SIMON!
WITHOUT THE CHAOS EMERALD TO KEEP US ALOFT...
21
RRRRUUMMMBBLLLL

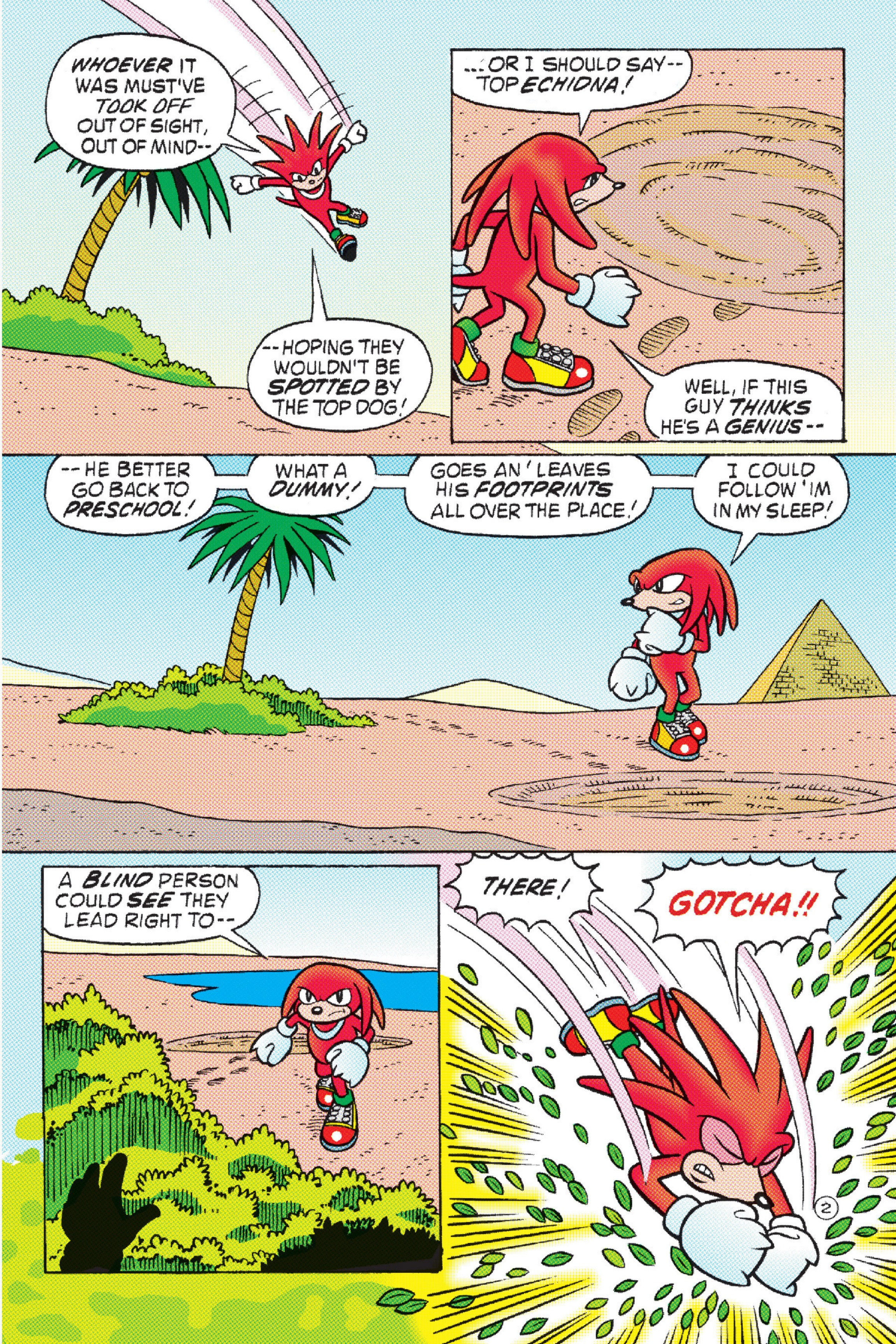

"...WE'RE HEADIN' FOR A FALL!"
MASTER-WE-ARE-FALLING!
BUCKET HEAD! I REALIZE THAT!
WE-WILL-BREAK-UP-IN--
NO!-- WE'RE BREAKING OFF!
KLIKT!
THE FOOL!
HE FORGOT THEY WERE EIGHT MILES HIGH!
NOW KNOTHOLE VILLAGE WILL BE DESTROYED...
...WITHOUT ME HAVING TO FIRE A SINGLE SHOT!
HA HA HA HA HA HA

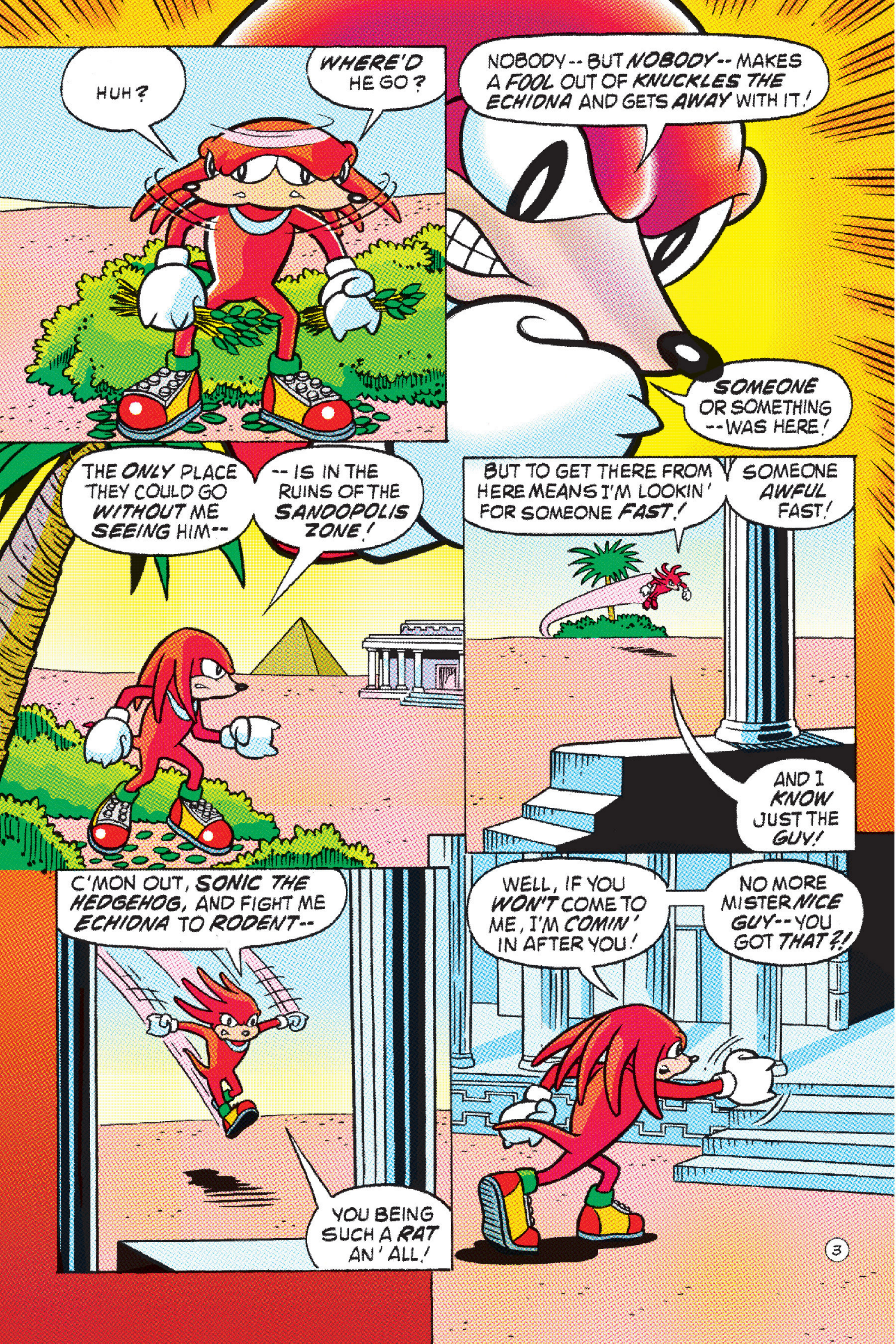

IS HE GONE?
OH, HE'S **GONE** ALL RIGHT!
REAL GONE!
GOOD!
HUH? *ANOTHER* CHAOS EMERALD?
HOW-?
POP!
DIDN'T YOUR MAMA EVER *TELL* YA, BLUE-BOY?
ALWAYS CARRY A *SPARE*...
SKA-REEEEEEEEEEEEE
"...AND DON'T LEAVE HOME *WITHOUT IT!*"
WHEW!

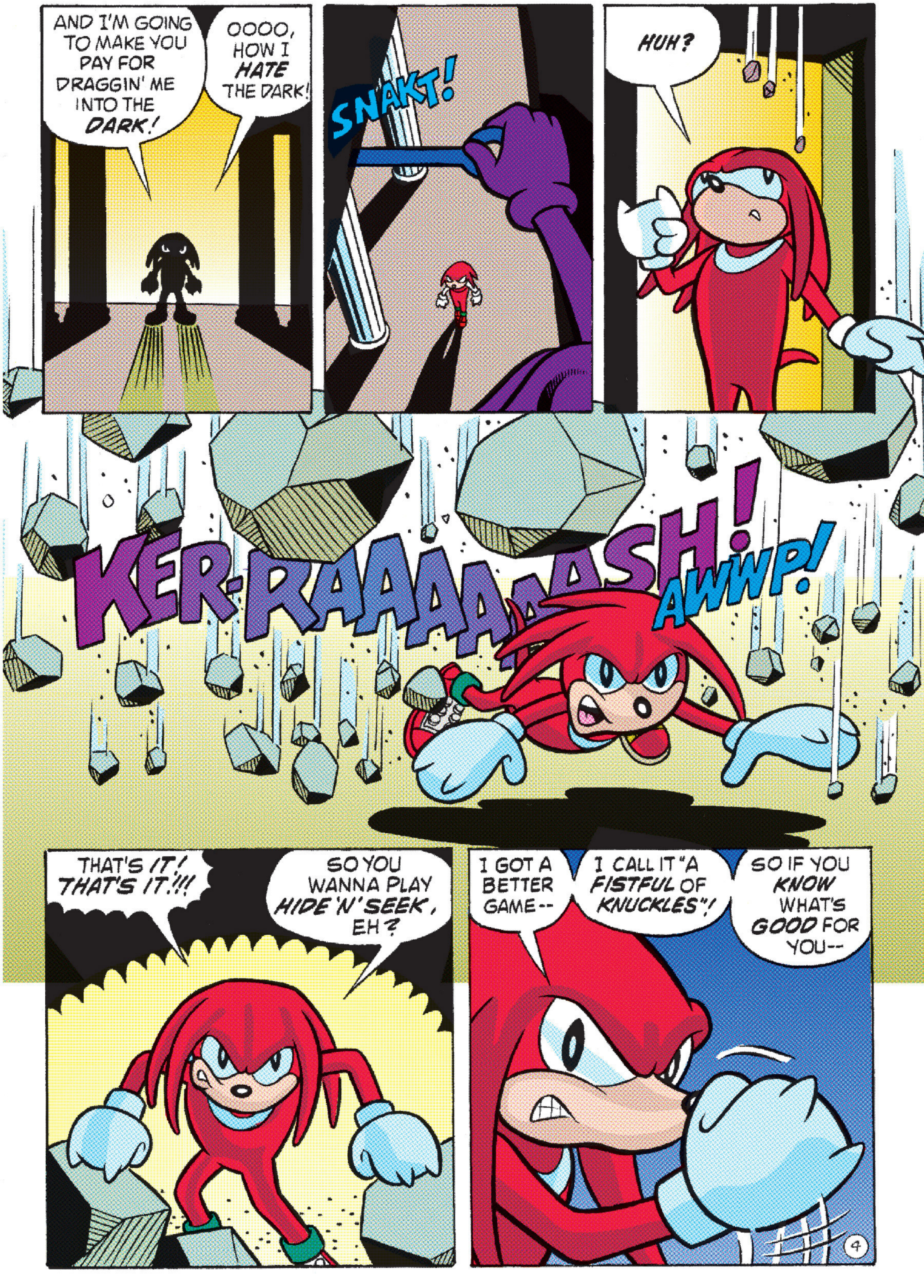

LATER...
MAYBE NEXT TIME, I'LL *LOOK* BEFORE LEAPING TO THE *WRONG CONCLUSION*!
HEY! IT WAS AN *HONEST* MISTAKE-- AND YOU CAME THROUGH IN THE *END*!
LUCKY FOR US YOU HAD THAT *SPARE* CHAOS EMERALD, KNUCKLES!
LAND'S END
WHAT *SPARE*? THAT WAS THE *REAL ONE* I PUT BACK!
REMOVING IT CAUSED THE ISLAND TO FALL--
--BUT I SMASHED THE *FAKE*!
I DIDN'T SEE YOU MAKE THE *SWITCH*!
NEITHER DID ROBOTNIK!
SAY, WHY DON'T YOU PARK YOUR ISLAND *HERE* AND JOIN US?
NO WAY! I'VE GOT MY *OWN PROBLEMS*--AND *RESPONSIBILITIES*!
SUIT *YOURSELF*...
... BUT DON'T BE A *STRANGER*!

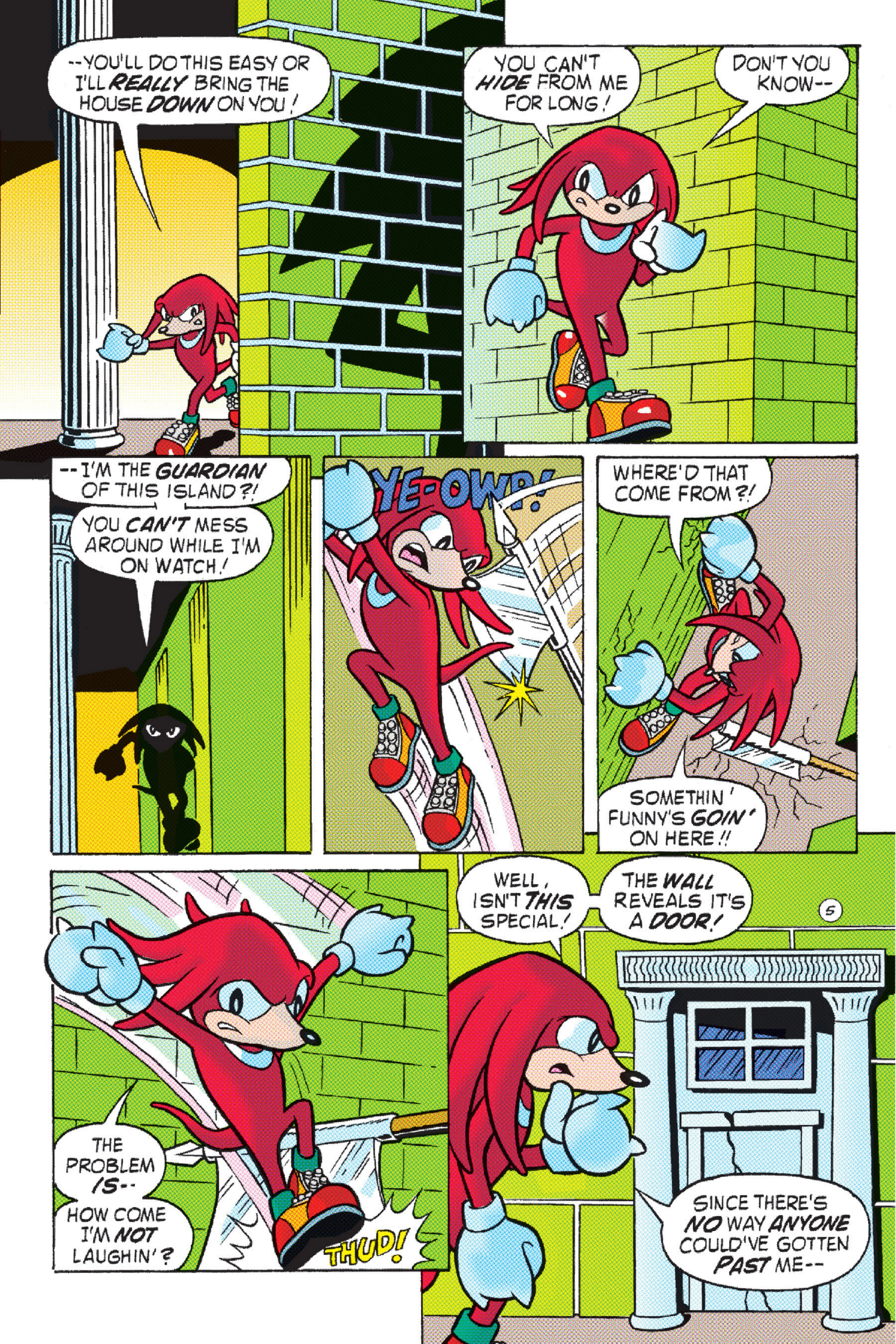

SONIC! TAILS! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
WHERE'S KNUCKLES?
YOU JUST MISSED HIM, PRINCESS!
HE AND THE FLOATING ISLAND ARE SHIPPING OUT FOR PARTS UNKNOWN!
AND ONCE HE GETS WHERE HE'S GOING, HE'S GOING TO GET RID OF ROBOTNIK'S SNAP-ON ACCESSORIES!
TOO BAD.
WELL, THAT'S ONE LESS WEAPON OF WAR WE'LL HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT!
BUT WHAT OF KNUCKLES?
THINK HE'LL EVER JOIN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS?
I DOUBT IT, SAL!
I THINK NOW AND FOREVER...
...HE'S ON HIS OWN!
THE END

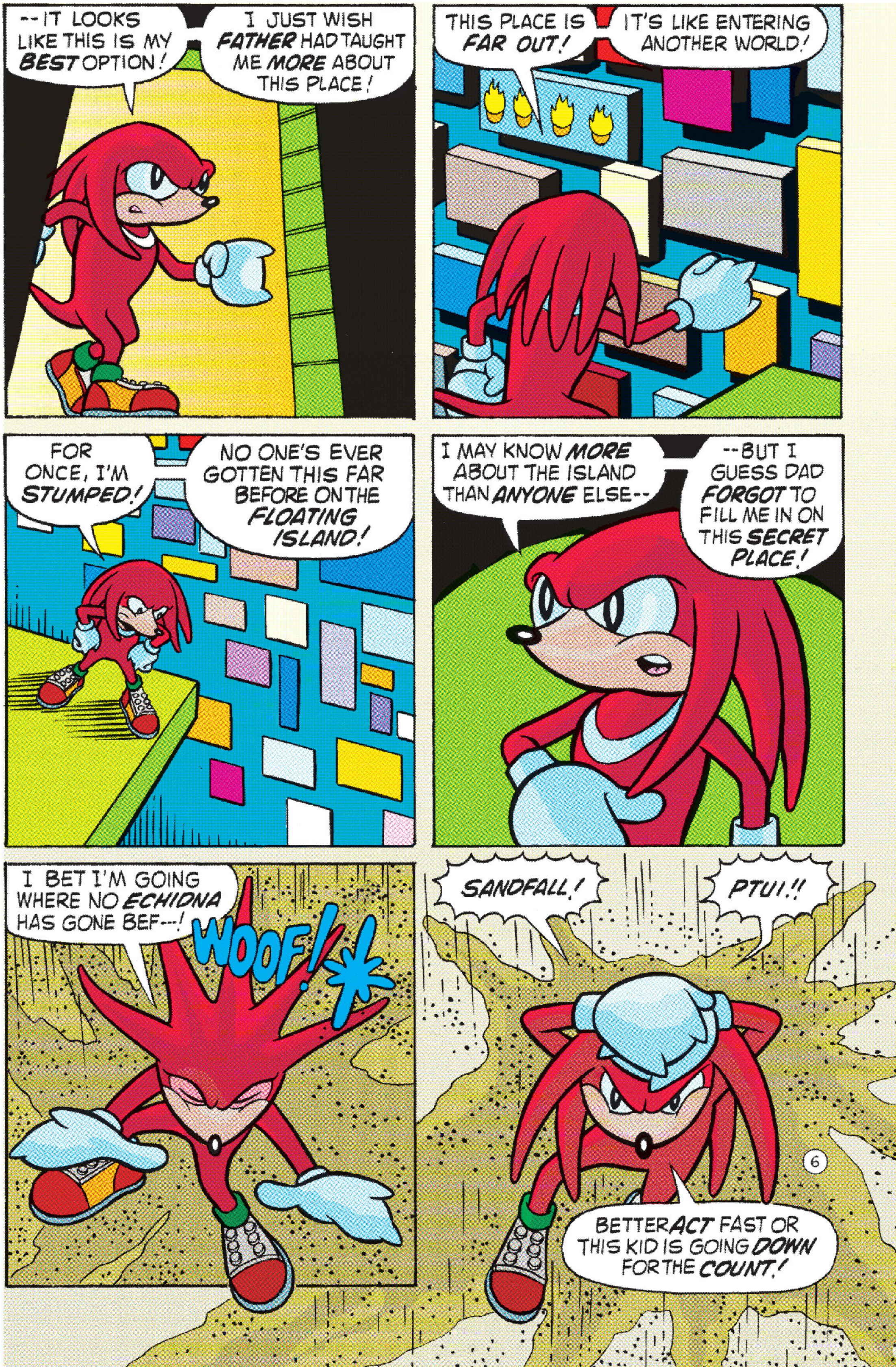

SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS
KNUCKLES™
IN
FIRE DRILL
A QUIET DAY ON THE *FLOATING ISLAND*...
KA-THOOOM!
WHAT WAS *THAT?!* SOME *DUDE* STARTING TROUBLE ON *MY* TURF?
SOUNDS LIKE IT CAME FROM THE BEACH!
I'D BETTER *WING* IT OVER THERE-- *REAL FAST!*
WHA--?
NOBODY'S HERE! JUST A *CRATER!*

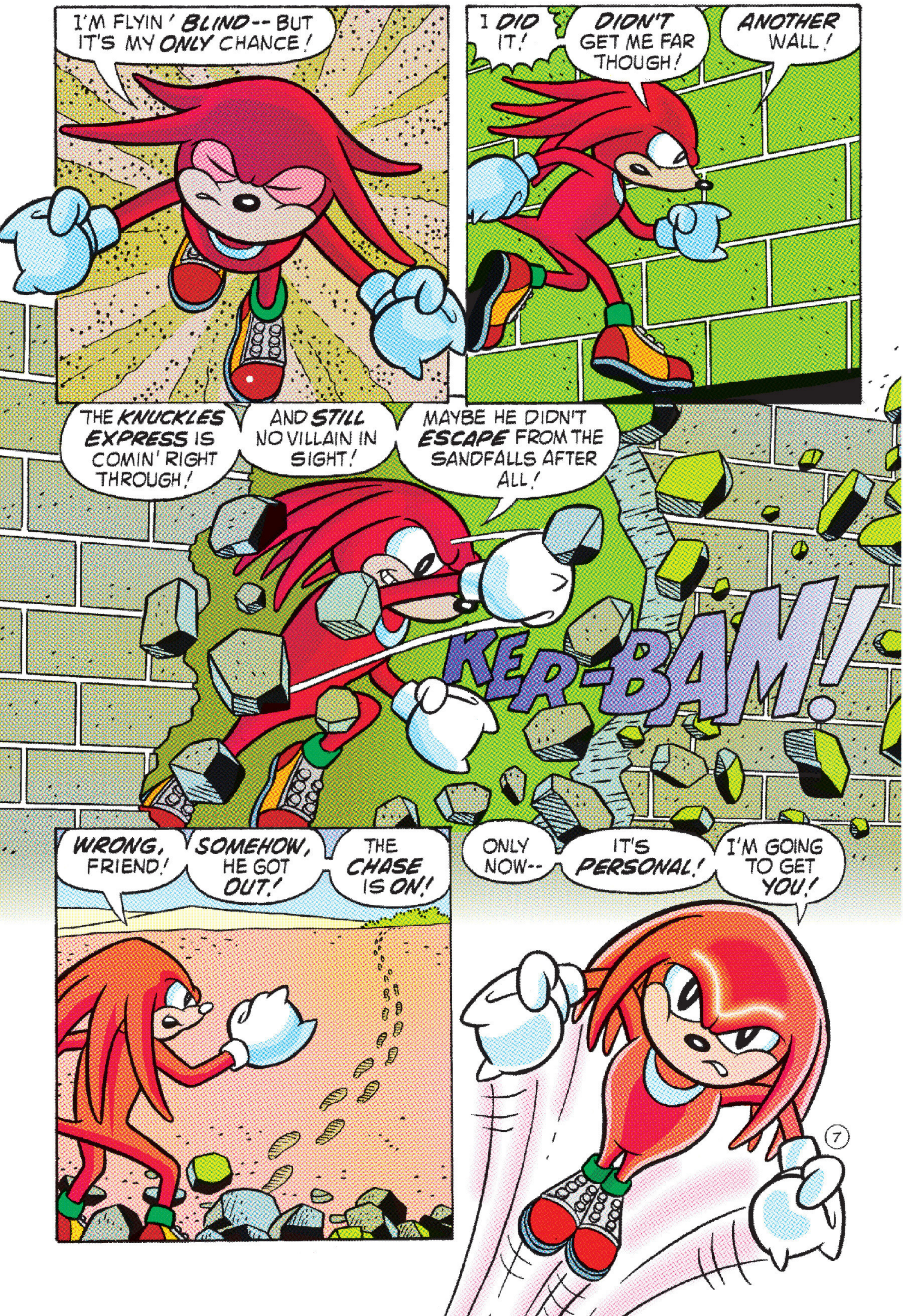

WHOEVER IT WAS MUST'VE TOOK OFF OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND--
--HOPING THEY WOULDN'T BE SPOTTED BY THE TOP DOG!
...OR I SHOULD SAY-- TOP ECHIDNA!
WELL, IF THIS GUY THINKS HE'S A GENIUS--
--HE BETTER GO BACK TO PRESCHOOL!
WHAT A DUMMY!
GOES AN' LEAVES HIS FOOTPRINTS ALL OVER THE PLACE!
I COULD FOLLOW 'IM IN MY SLEEP!
A BLIND PERSON COULD SEE THEY LEAD RIGHT TO--
THERE!
GOTCHA!!

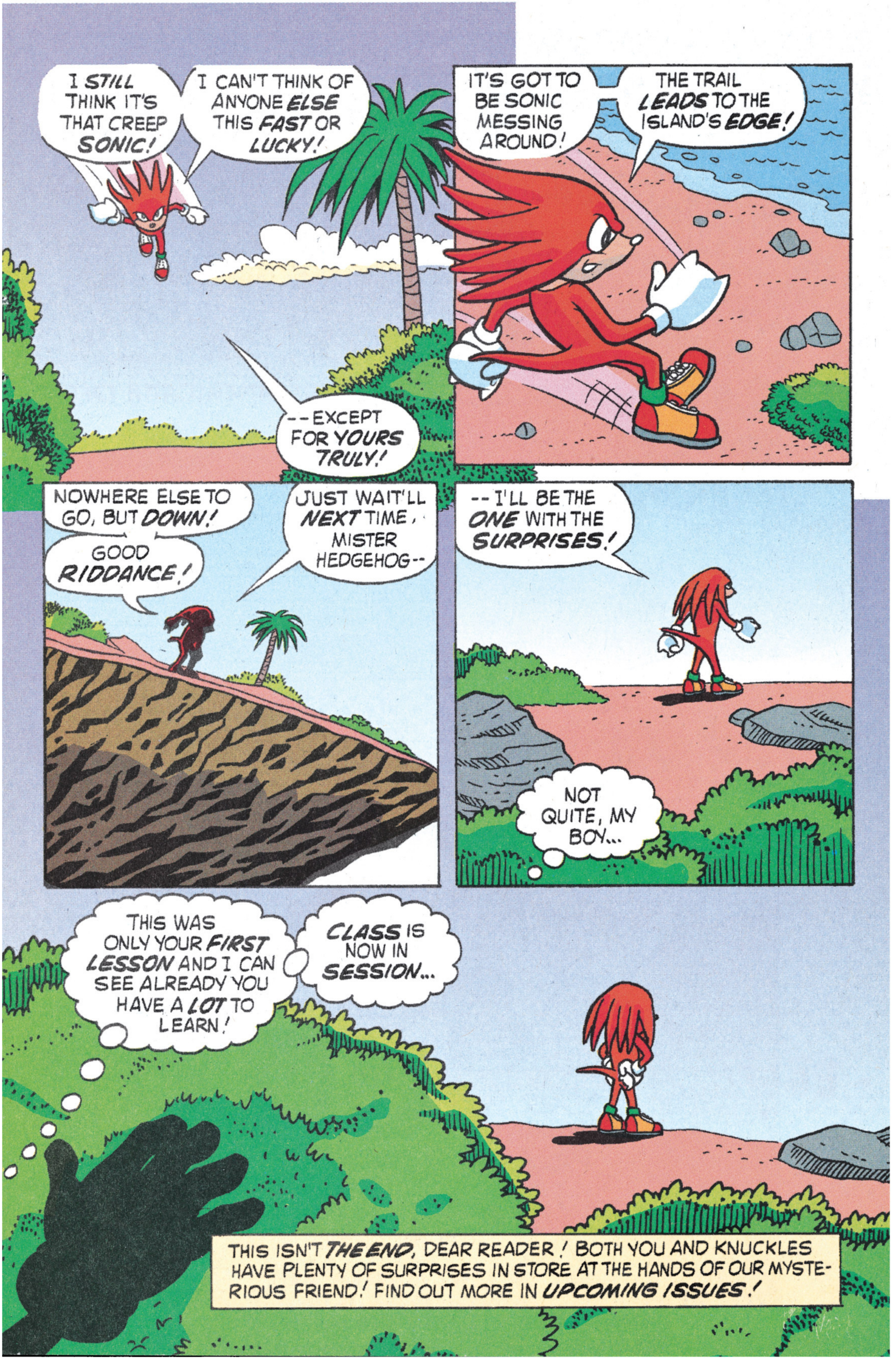

HUH?
WHERE'D HE GO?
NOBODY -- BUT NOBODY -- MAKES A FOOL OUT OF KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!
SOMEONE OR SOMETHING -- WAS HERE!
THE ONLY PLACE THEY COULD GO WITHOUT ME SEEING HIM--
-- IS IN THE RUINS OF THE SANDOPOLIS ZONE!
BUT TO GET THERE FROM HERE MEANS I'M LOOKIN' FOR SOMEONE FAST!
SOMEONE AWFUL FAST!
AND I KNOW JUST THE GUY!
C'MON OUT, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, AND FIGHT ME ECHIDNA TO RODENT--
YOU BEING SUCH A RAT AN' ALL!
WELL, IF YOU WON'T COME TO ME, I'M COMIN' IN AFTER YOU!
NO MORE MISTER NICE GUY -- YOU GOT THAT?!

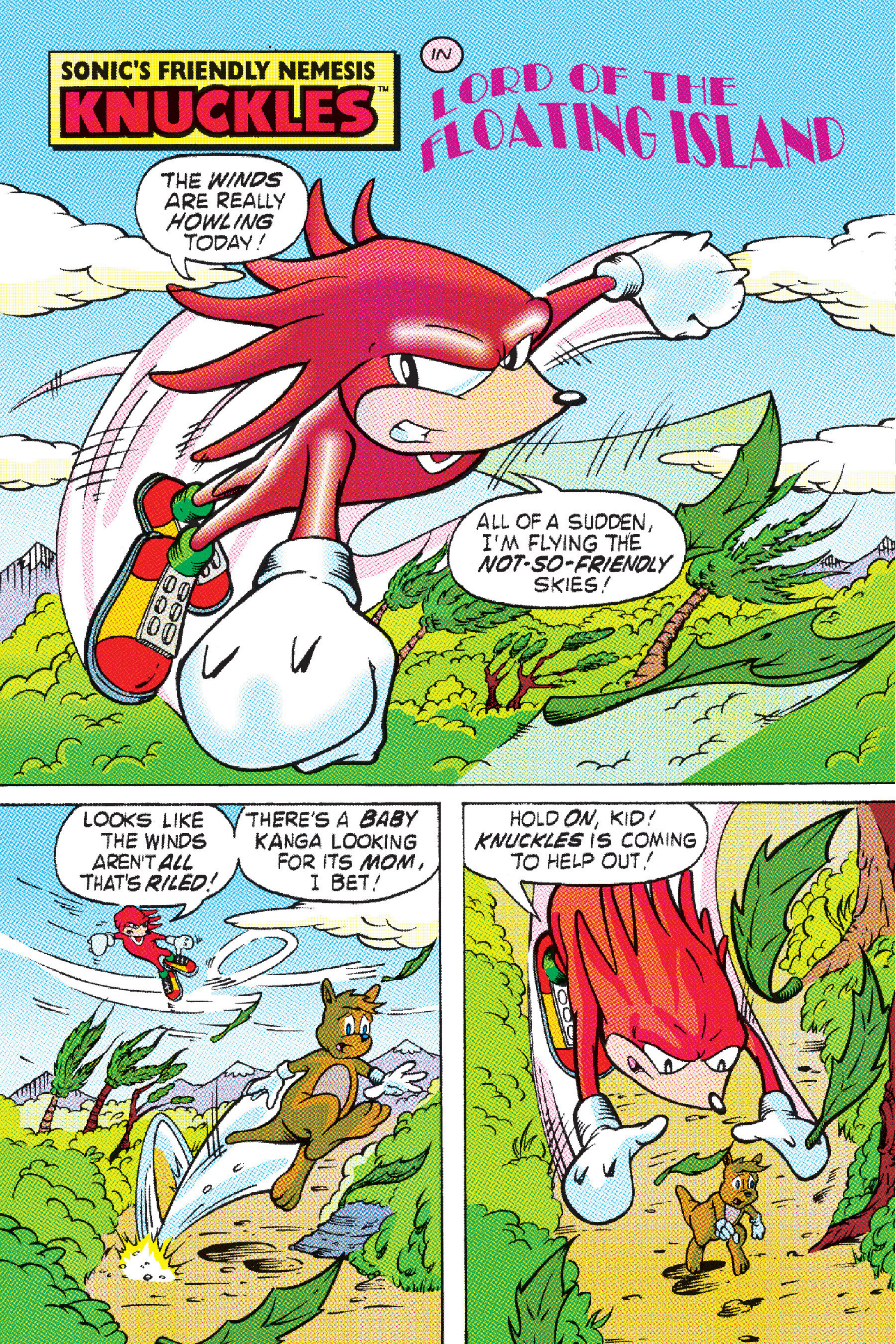

AND I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU PAY FOR DRAGGIN' ME INTO THE *DARK*!
OOOO, HOW I *HATE* THE DARK!
SNAKT!
HUH?
KER-RAAAAAASH!
AWWP!
THAT'S *IT*! *THAT'S IT*!!!
SO YOU WANNA PLAY *HIDE 'N' SEEK*, EH?
I GOT A BETTER GAME--
I CALL IT "A *FISTFUL* OF *KNUCKLES*"!
SO IF YOU *KNOW* WHAT'S *GOOD* FOR YOU--

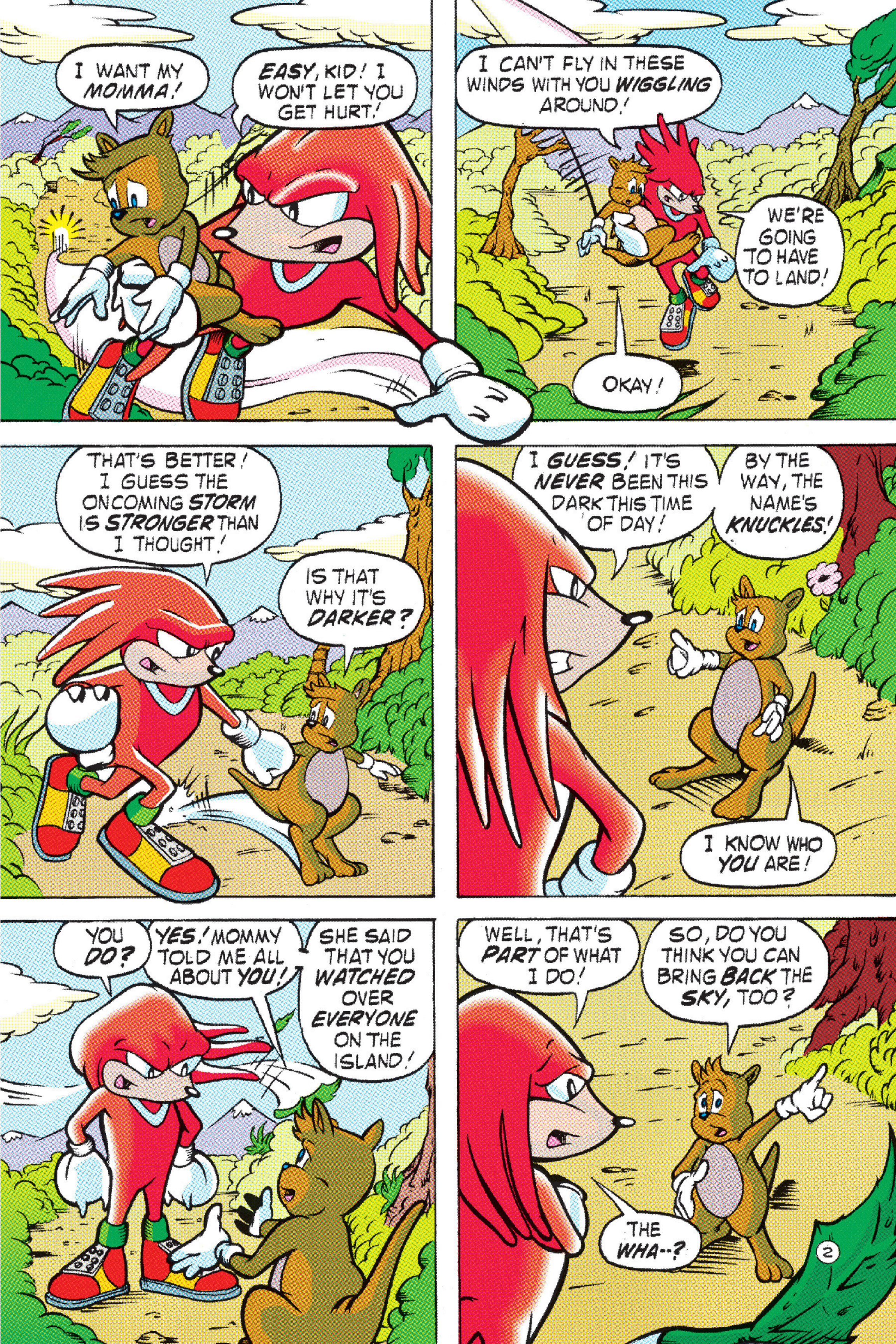

--YOU'LL DO THIS EASY OR I'LL *REALLY* BRING THE HOUSE *DOWN* ON YOU!
YOU CAN'T *HIDE* FROM ME FOR LONG!
DON'T YOU KNOW--
--I'M THE *GUARDIAN* OF THIS ISLAND?!
YOU *CAN'T* MESS AROUND WHILE I'M ON WATCH!
YE-OWP!
WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?!
SOMETHIN' FUNNY'S *GOIN'* ON HERE!!
THE PROBLEM *IS*--
HOW COME I'M *NOT* LAUGHIN'?
THUD!
WELL, ISN'T *THIS* SPECIAL!
THE *WALL* REVEALS IT'S A *DOOR*!
5
SINCE THERE'S *NO* WAY *ANYONE* COULD'VE GOTTEN *PAST* ME--

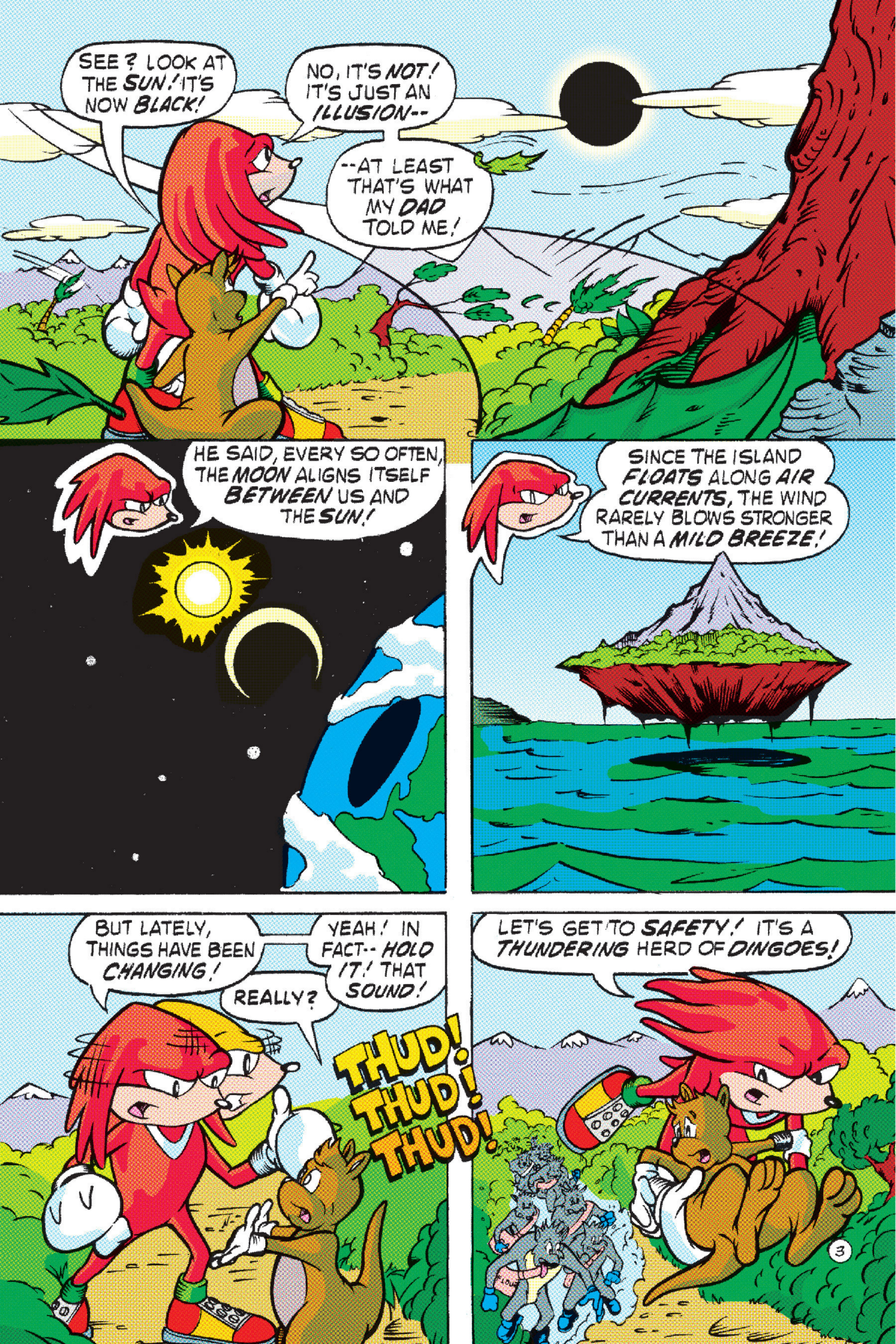

--IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS MY *BEST* OPTION!
I JUST WISH *FATHER* HAD TAUGHT ME *MORE* ABOUT THIS PLACE!
THIS PLACE IS *FAR OUT*!
IT'S LIKE ENTERING ANOTHER WORLD!
FOR ONCE, I'M *STUMPED*!
NO ONE'S EVER GOTTEN THIS FAR BEFORE ON THE *FLOATING ISLAND*!
I MAY KNOW *MORE* ABOUT THE ISLAND THAN *ANYONE* ELSE--
--BUT I GUESS DAD *FORGOT* TO FILL ME IN ON THIS *SECRET PLACE*!
I BET I'M GOING WHERE NO *ECHIDNA* HAS GONE BEF---!
WOOF!
SANDFALL!
PTUI!!
BETTER *ACT* FAST OR THIS KID IS GOING *DOWN* FOR THE *COUNT*!

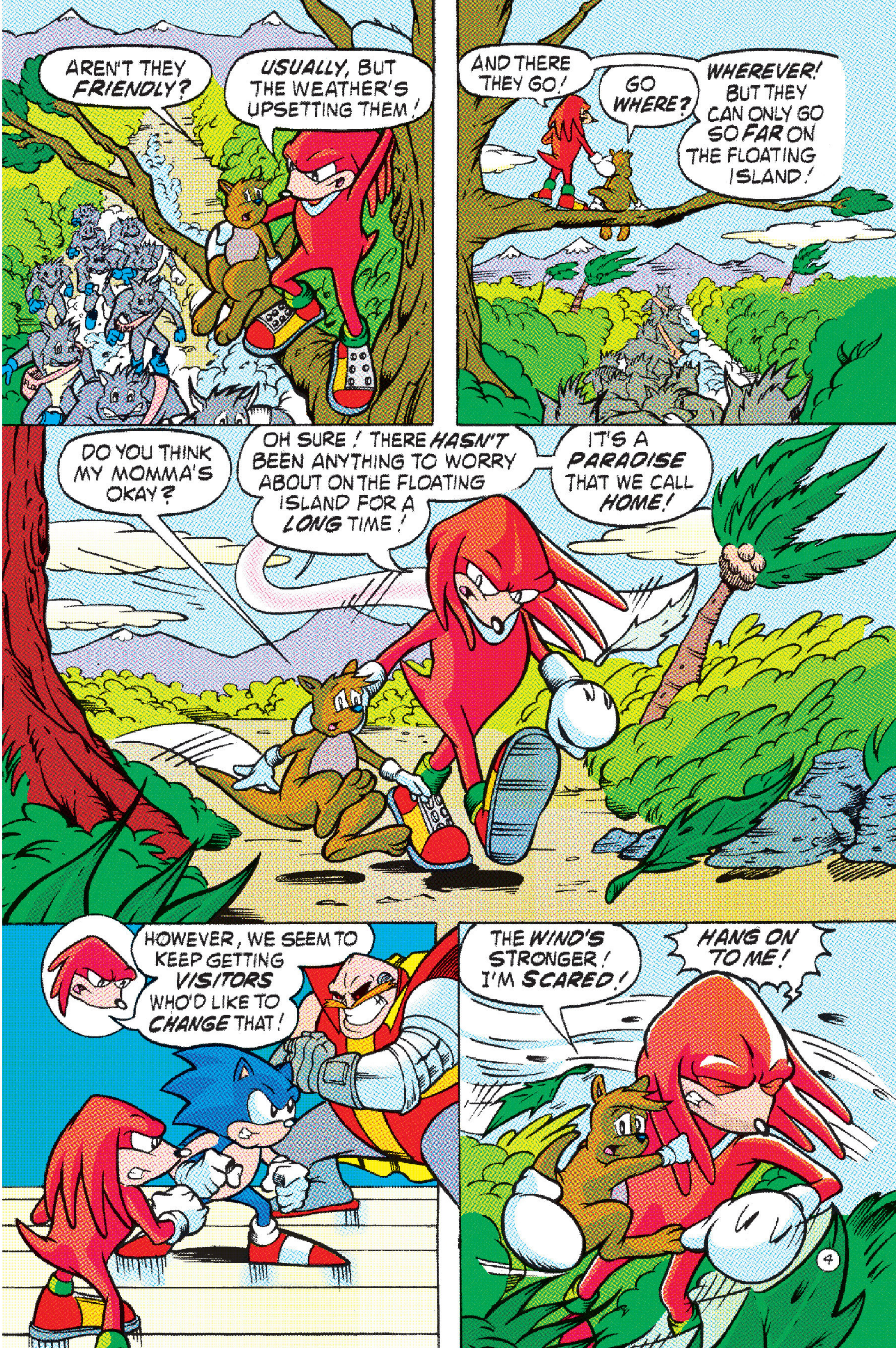

I'M FLYIN' *BLIND*-- BUT IT'S MY *ONLY* CHANCE!
I *DID* IT!
DIDN'T GET ME FAR THOUGH!
ANOTHER WALL!
THE *KNUCKLES EXPRESS* IS COMIN' RIGHT THROUGH!
AND *STILL* NO VILLAIN IN SIGHT!
MAYBE HE DIDN'T *ESCAPE* FROM THE SANDFALLS AFTER ALL!
KER-BAM!
WRONG, FRIEND!
SOMEHOW, HE GOT *OUT*!
THE *CHASE* IS *ON*!
ONLY NOW--
IT'S *PERSONAL*!
I'M GOING TO GET *YOU*!

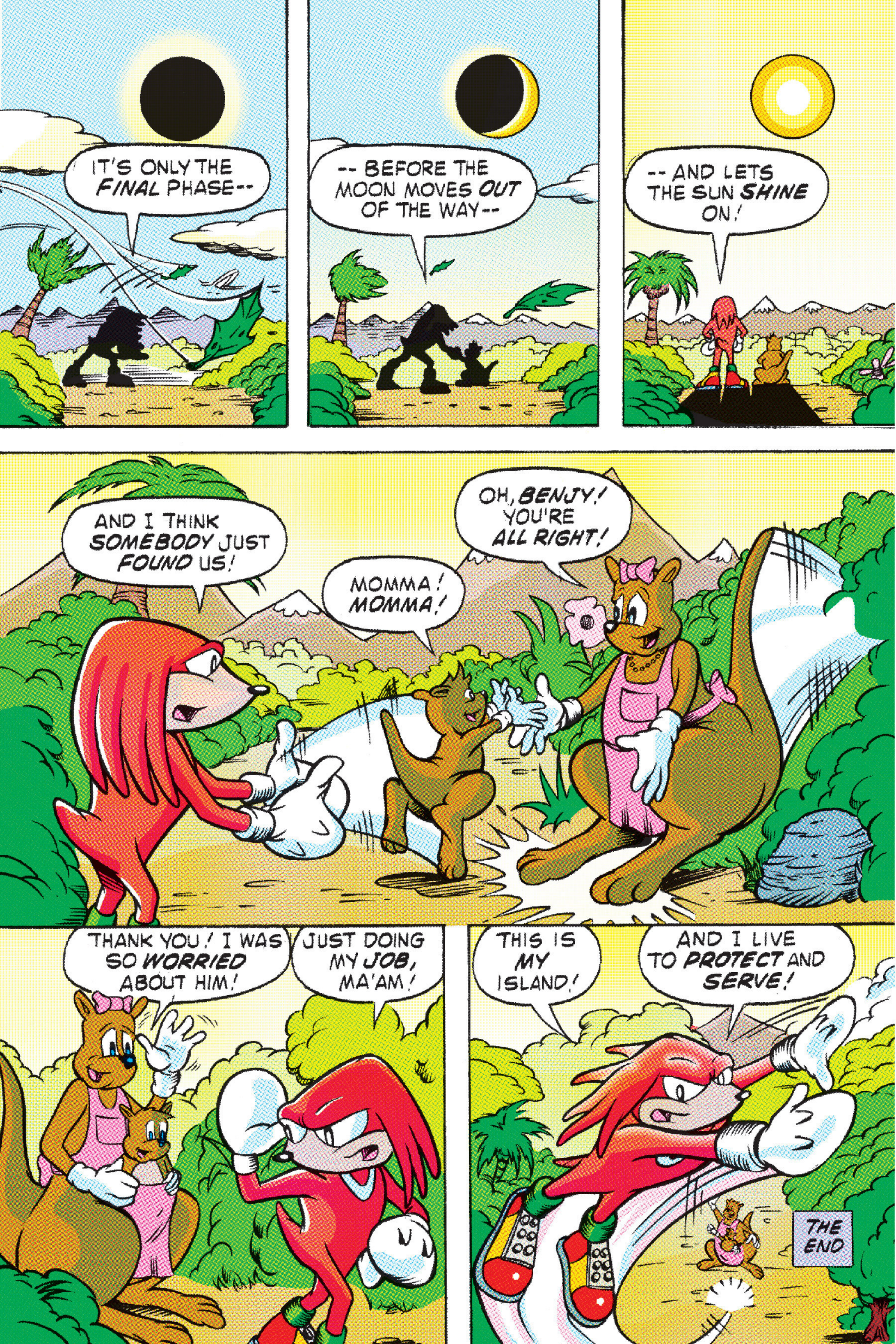

I *STILL* THINK IT'S THAT CREEP *SONIC!*
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYONE *ELSE* THIS *FAST* OR *LUCKY!*
--EXCEPT FOR *YOURS TRULY!*
IT'S GOT TO BE SONIC MESSING AROUND!
THE TRAIL *LEADS* TO THE ISLAND'S *EDGE!*
NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, BUT *DOWN!*
GOOD *RIDDANCE!*
JUST WAIT'LL *NEXT* TIME, MISTER HEDGEHOG--
--I'LL BE THE *ONE* WITH THE *SURPRISES!*
NOT QUITE, MY BOY...
THIS WAS ONLY YOUR *FIRST LESSON* AND I CAN SEE ALREADY YOU HAVE A *LOT* TO LEARN!
CLASS IS NOW IN *SESSION...*
THIS ISN'T *THE END,* DEAR READER! BOTH YOU AND KNUCKLES HAVE PLENTY OF SURPRISES IN STORE AT THE HANDS OF OUR MYSTERIOUS FRIEND! FIND OUT MORE IN *UPCOMING ISSUES!*

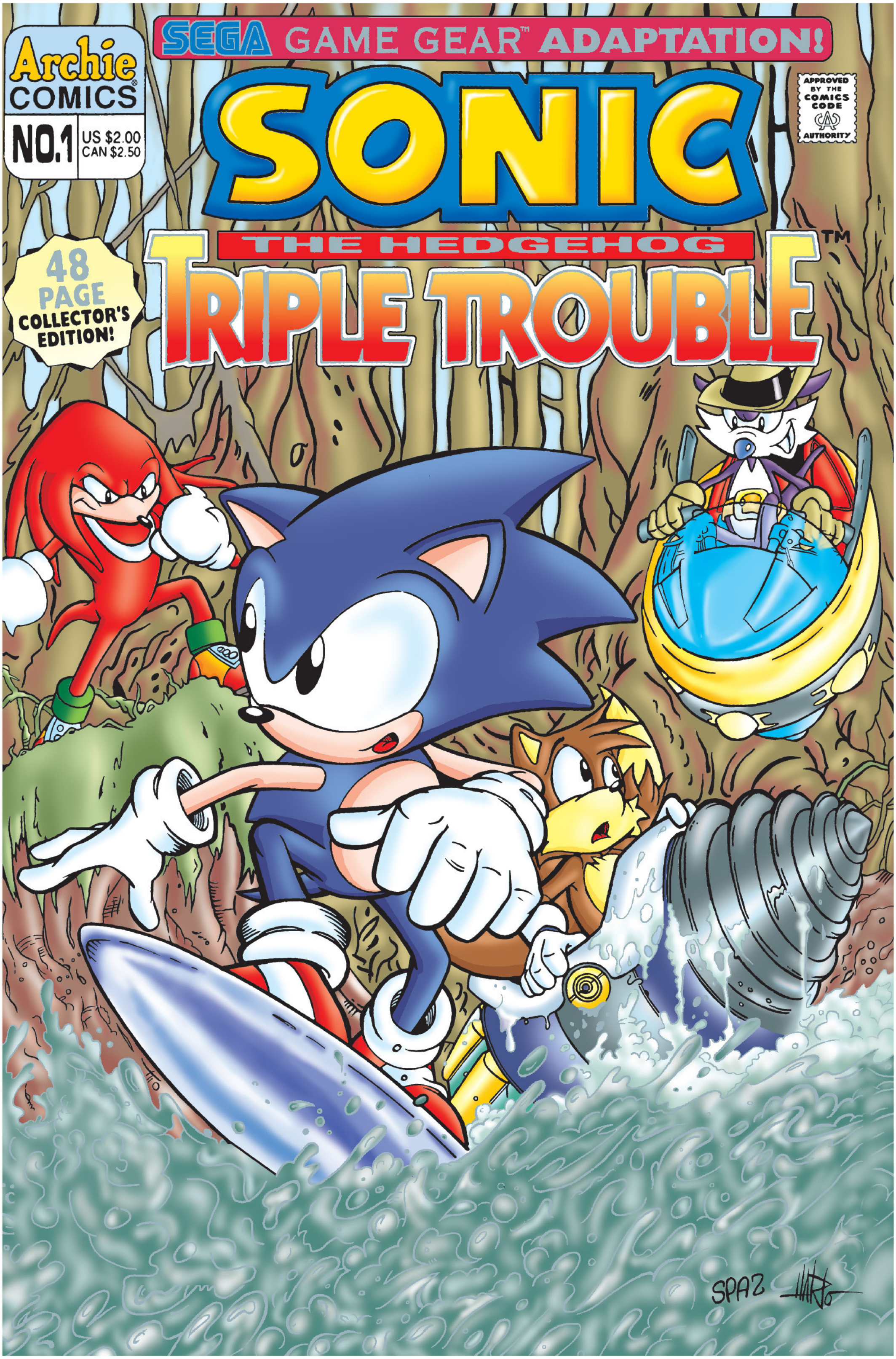

SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS
KNUCKLES™
IN
LORD OF THE FLOATING ISLAND
THE *WINDS* ARE REALLY *HOWLING* TODAY!
ALL OF A SUDDEN, I'M FLYING THE *NOT-SO-FRIENDLY* SKIES!
LOOKS LIKE THE WINDS AREN'T *ALL* THAT'S *RILED*!
THERE'S A *BABY* KANGA LOOKING FOR ITS *MOM*, I BET!
HOLD *ON*, KID! *KNUCKLES* IS COMING TO HELP OUT!


I WANT MY *MOMMA!*
EASY, KID! I WON'T LET YOU GET HURT!
I CAN'T FLY IN THESE WINDS WITH YOU *WIGGLING* AROUND!
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LAND!
OKAY!
THAT'S BETTER! I GUESS THE ONCOMING *STORM* IS *STRONGER* THAN I THOUGHT!
IS THAT WHY IT'S *DARKER?*
I *GUESS!* IT'S *NEVER* BEEN THIS DARK THIS TIME OF DAY!
BY THE WAY, THE NAME'S *KNUCKLES!*
I KNOW WHO *YOU* ARE!
YOU *DO?*
YES! MOMMY TOLD ME ALL ABOUT *YOU!*
SHE SAID THAT YOU *WATCHED* OVER *EVERYONE* ON THE ISLAND!
WELL, THAT'S *PART* OF WHAT I DO!
SO, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN BRING *BACK* THE *SKY*, TOO?
THE *WHA--?*


SEE? LOOK AT THE *SUN!* IT'S NOW *BLACK!*
NO, IT'S *NOT!* IT'S JUST AN *ILLUSION*--
--AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT MY *DAD* TOLD ME!
HE SAID, EVERY SO OFTEN, THE *MOON* ALIGNS ITSELF *BETWEEN* US AND THE *SUN!*
SINCE THE ISLAND *FLOATS* ALONG *AIR CURRENTS*, THE WIND RARELY BLOWS STRONGER THAN A *MILD BREEZE!*
BUT LATELY, THINGS HAVE BEEN *CHANGING!*
REALLY?
YEAH! IN FACT-- *HOLD IT!* THAT *SOUND!*
THUD! THUD! THUD!
LET'S GET TO *SAFETY!* IT'S A *THUNDERING* HERD OF *DINGOES!*


AREN'T THEY *FRIENDLY*?
USUALLY, BUT THE WEATHER'S UPSETTING THEM!
AND THERE THEY GO!
GO *WHERE*?
WHEREVER! BUT THEY CAN ONLY GO SO *FAR* ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!
DO YOU THINK MY MOMMA'S OKAY?
OH SURE! THERE *HASN'T* BEEN ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT ON THE FLOATING ISLAND FOR A *LONG* TIME!
IT'S A *PARADISE* THAT WE CALL *HOME*!
HOWEVER, WE SEEM TO KEEP GETTING *VISITORS* WHO'D LIKE TO *CHANGE* THAT!
THE *WIND'S* STRONGER! I'M *SCARED*!
HANG ON TO ME!


IT'S ONLY THE *FINAL* PHASE--
-- BEFORE THE MOON MOVES *OUT* OF THE WAY--
-- AND LETS THE SUN *SHINE* ON!
AND I THINK *SOMEBODY* JUST *FOUND* US!
MOMMA! *MOMMA!*
OH, *BENJY!* YOU'RE *ALL RIGHT!*
THANK YOU! I WAS SO *WORRIED* ABOUT HIM!
JUST DOING MY *JOB,* MA'AM!
THIS IS *MY* ISLAND!
AND I LIVE TO *PROTECT* AND *SERVE!*
THE END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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG TRIPLE TROUBLE™

WAY PAST COOL!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D LIVE TO SEE SUCH A THING!
IT'S ⋮shudder⋮ BREATHTAKING!

IN THIS ISSUE:

"TTTRIPLE TTTROUBLE!!!"
Script: **Mike Gallagher**
Penciling: **Dave Manak**
Inking: **Harvo**

"SUBMERSIBLE REHEARSAL"
Script: **Mike Gallagher**
Penciling: **Art Mawhinney**
Inking: **Rich Koslowski**

"FIRST CONTACT"
Script & Penciling: **Ken Penders**
Inking: **Jon D'Agostino**

Lettering: **Mindy Eisman**

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Cover Colors: **Heroic Age Colors**

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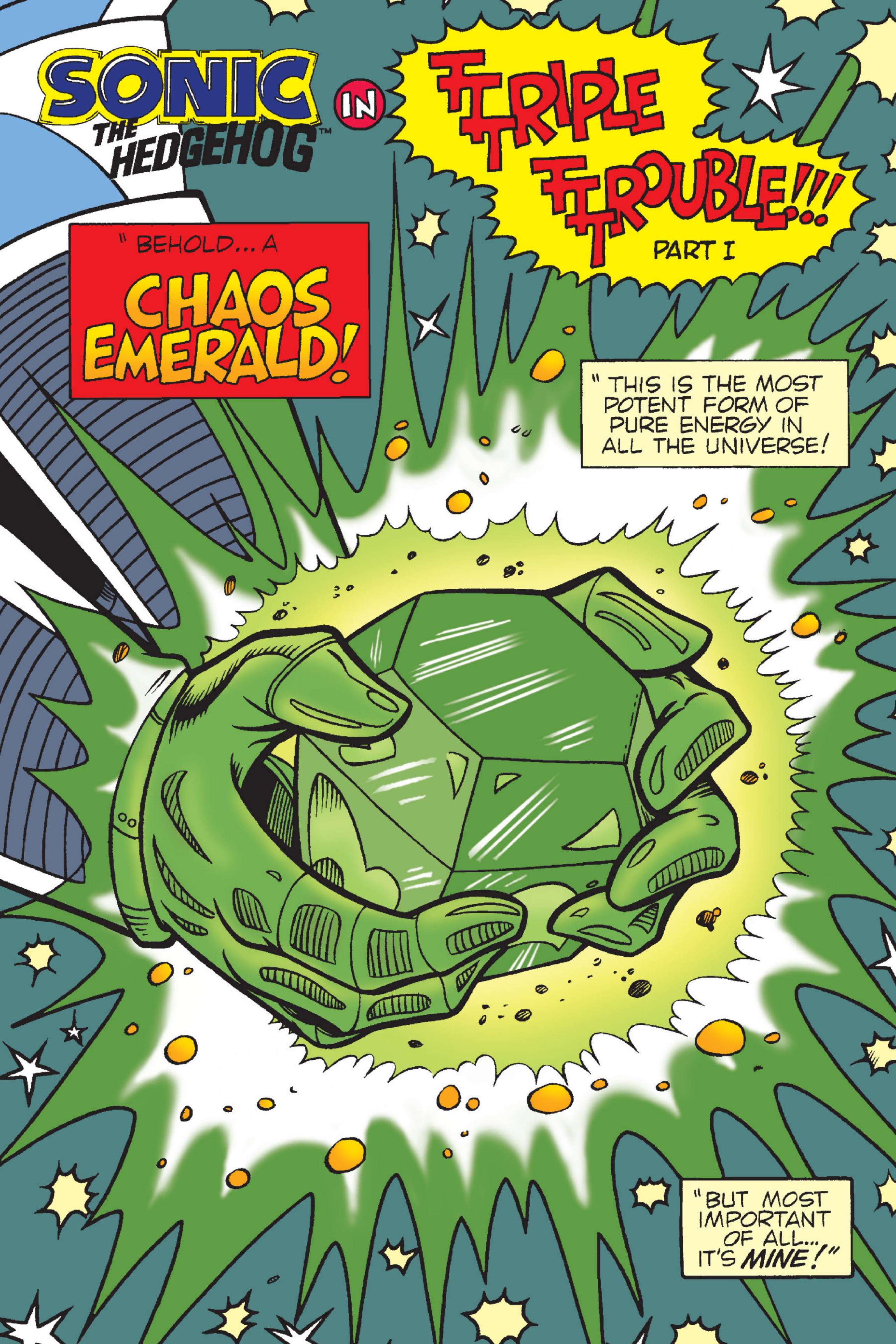
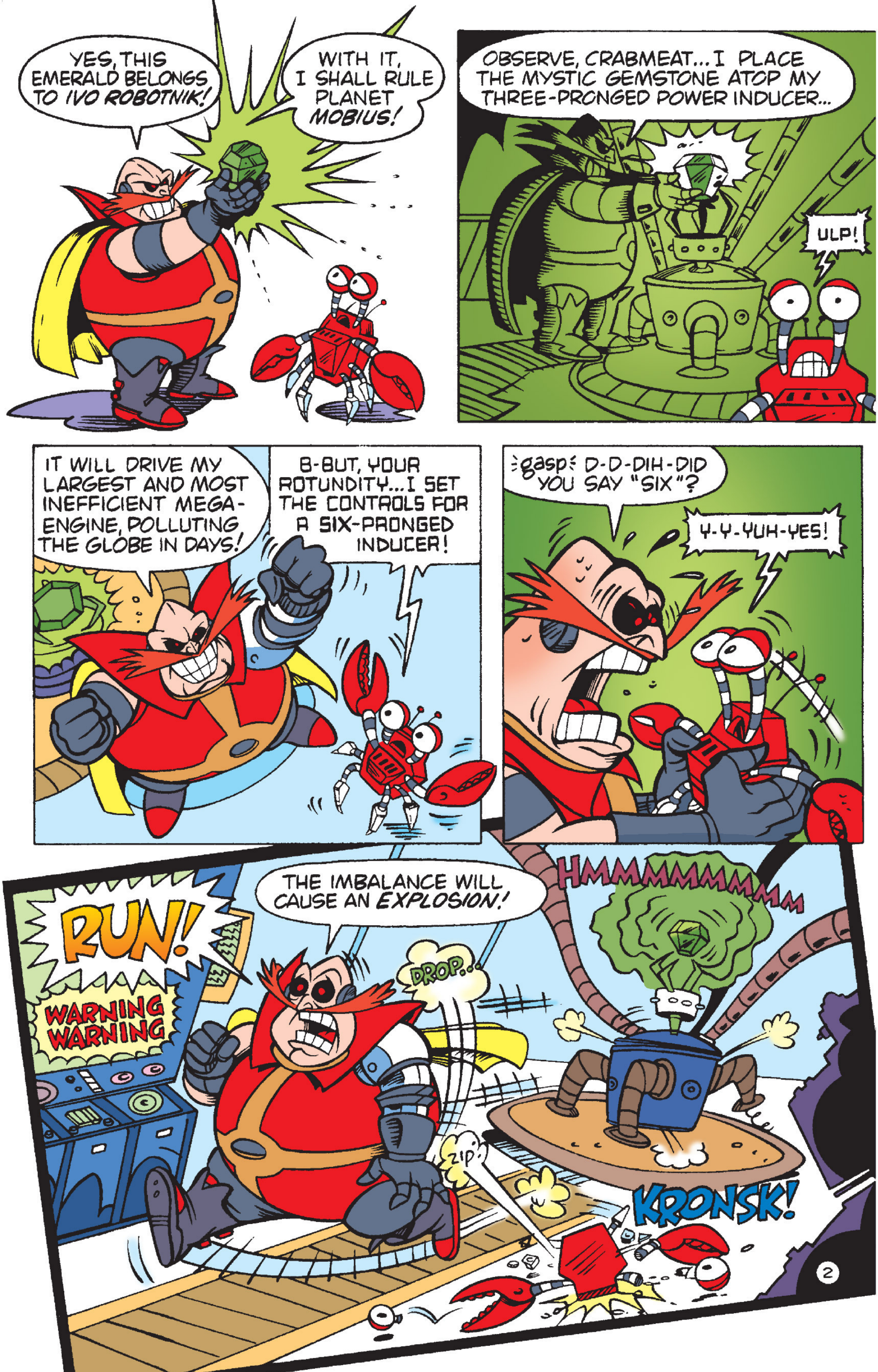
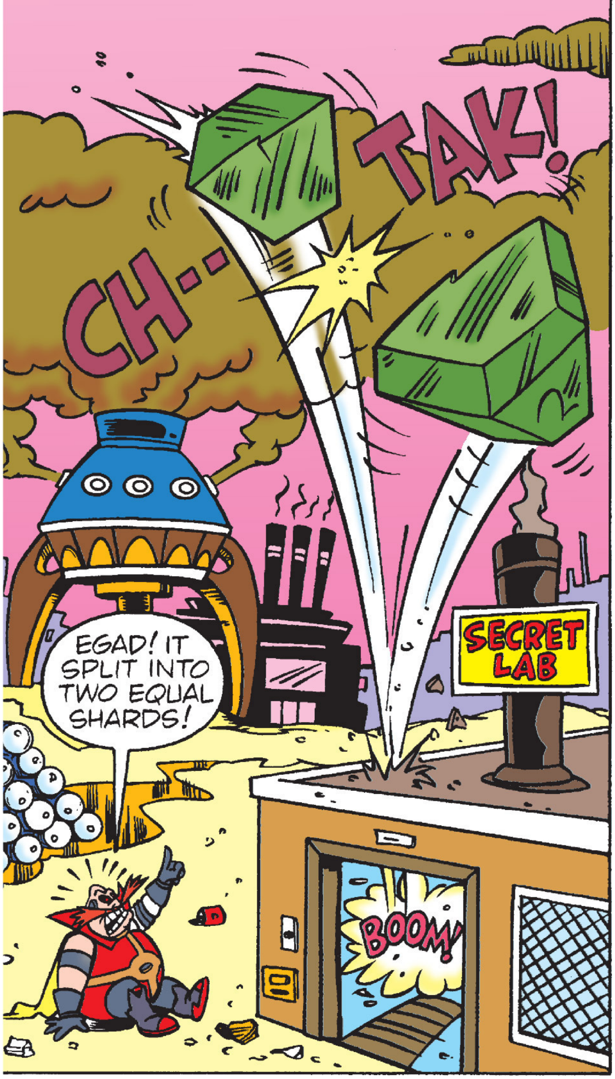
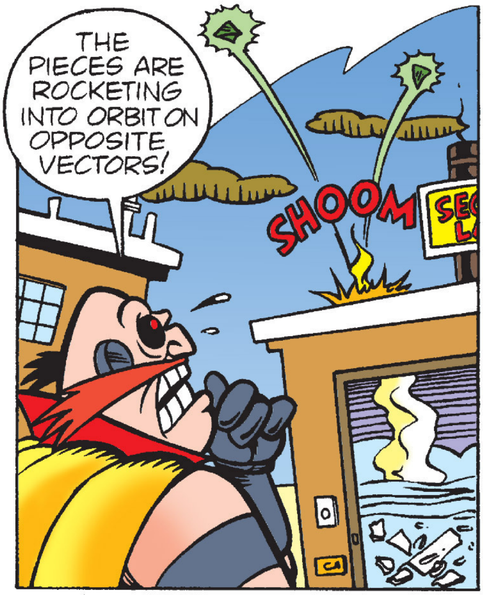
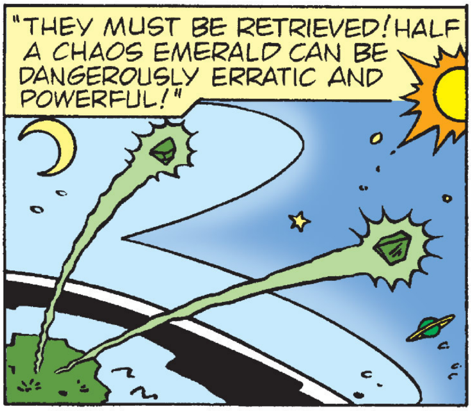
SPECIAL THANKS TO JENNIFER HUNN AT SEGA

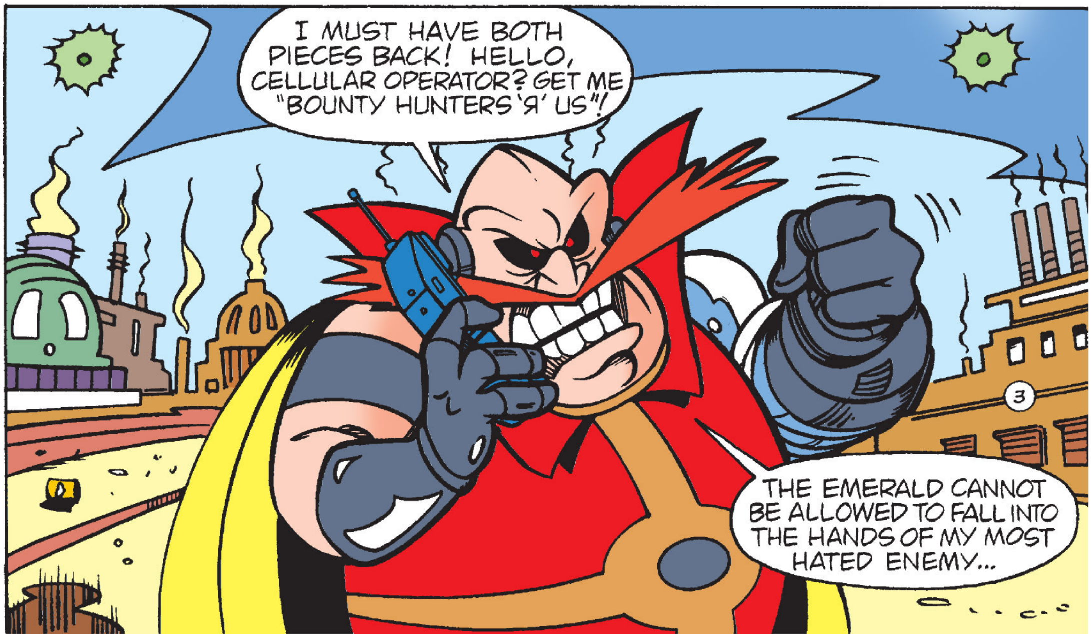

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™ IN
TRIPLE TROUBLE!!!
PART I
"BEHOLD... A CHAOS EMERALD!
"THIS IS THE MOST POTENT FORM OF PURE ENERGY IN ALL THE UNIVERSE!
"BUT MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL... IT'S *MINE!*"

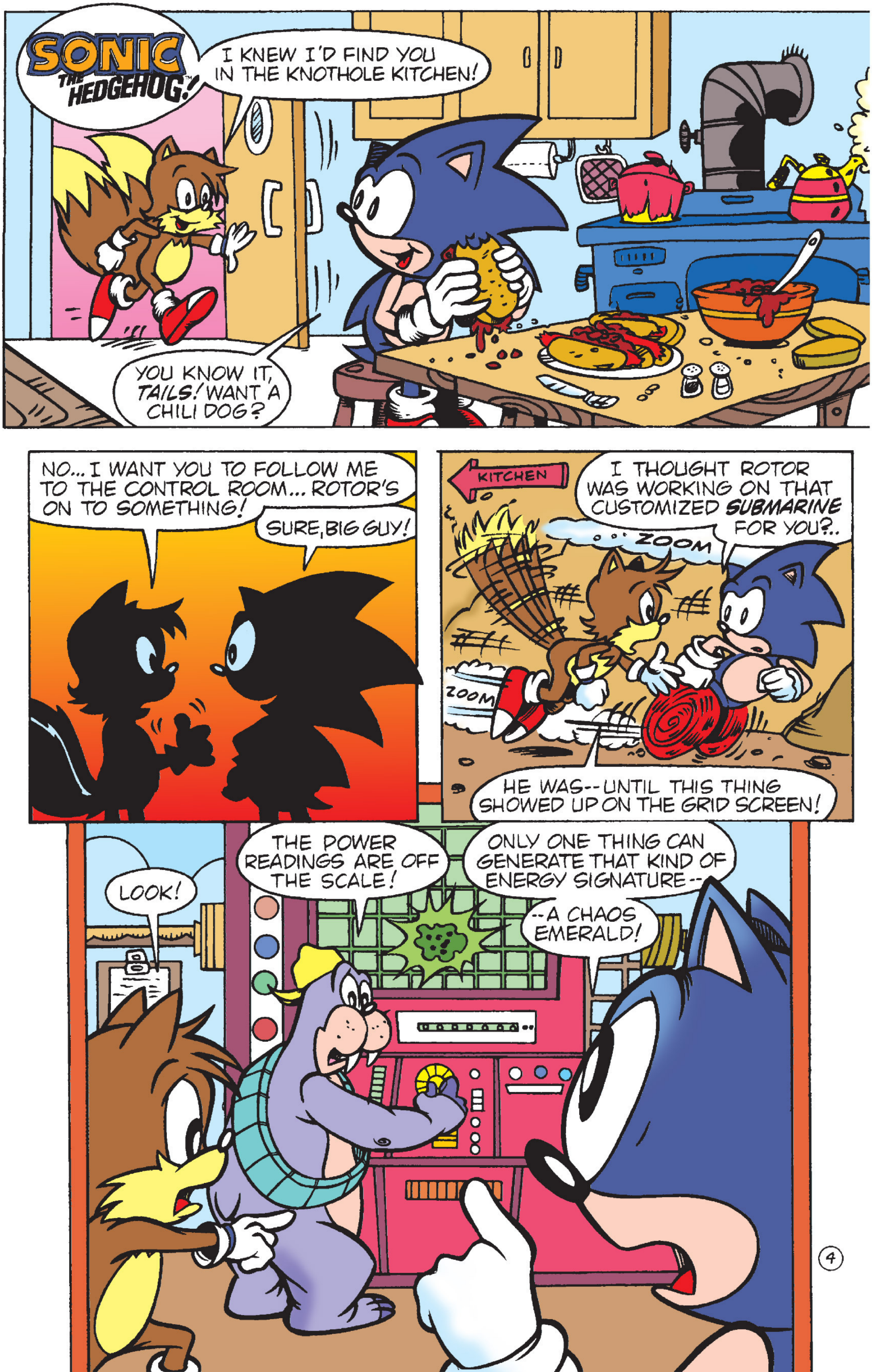

YES, THIS EMERALD BELONGS TO *IVO ROBOTNIK!*
WITH IT, I SHALL RULE PLANET *MOBIUS!*
OBSERVE, CRABMEAT... I PLACE THE MYSTIC GEMSTONE ATOP MY THREE-PRONGED POWER INDUCER...
ULP!
IT WILL DRIVE MY LARGEST AND MOST INEFFICIENT MEGA-ENGINE, POLLUTING THE GLOBE IN DAYS!
B-BUT, YOUR ROTUNDITY... I SET THE CONTROLS FOR A **SIX**-PRONGED INDUCER!
gasp D-D-DIH-DID YOU SAY "SIX"?
Y-Y-YUH-YES!
RUN!
WARNING WARNING
THE IMBALANCE WILL CAUSE AN *EXPLOSION!*
HMMMMMMMMM
DROP...
zip!
KRONSK!

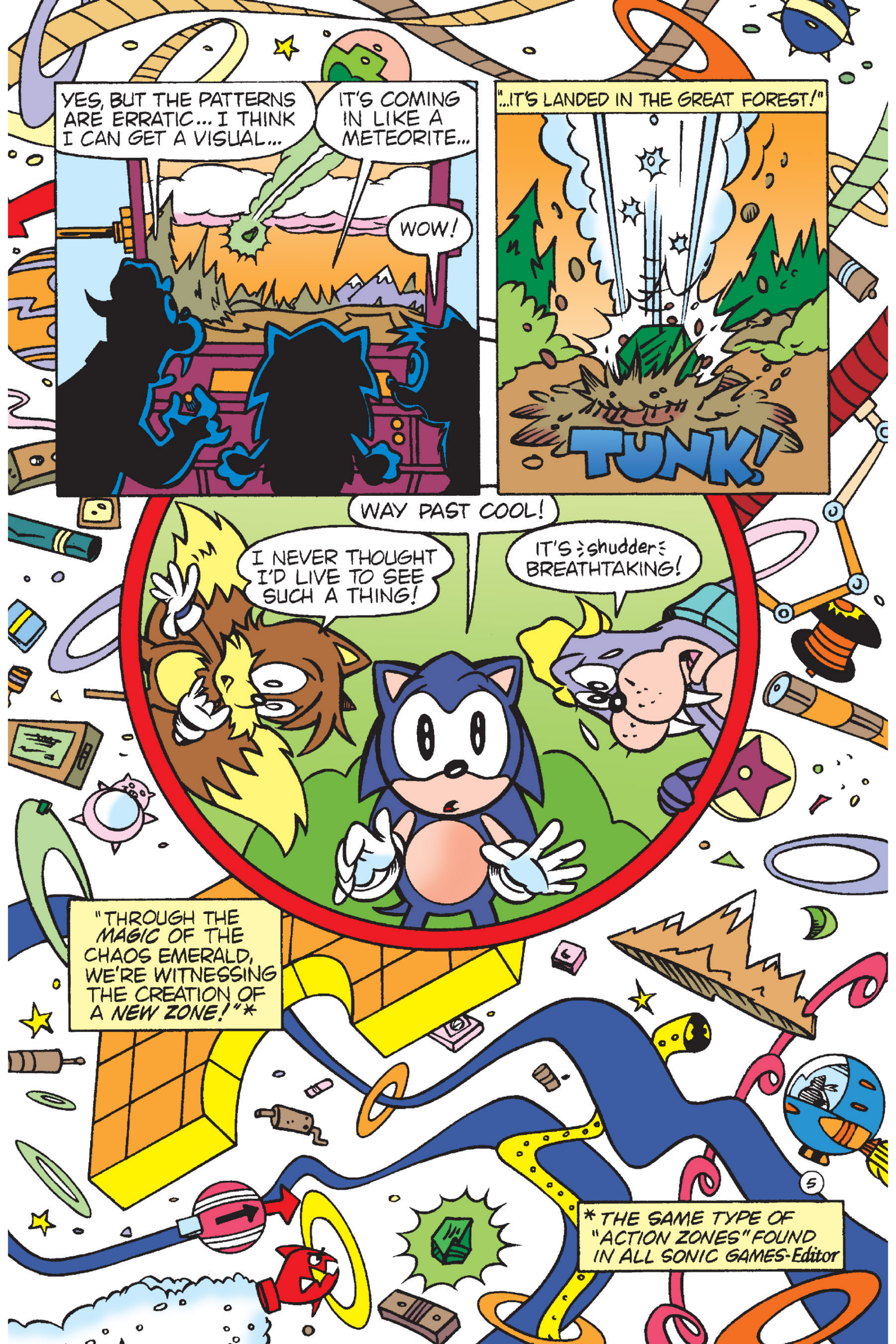

CH--
TAK!
EGAD! IT SPLIT INTO TWO EQUAL SHARDS!
SECRET LAB
BOOM!

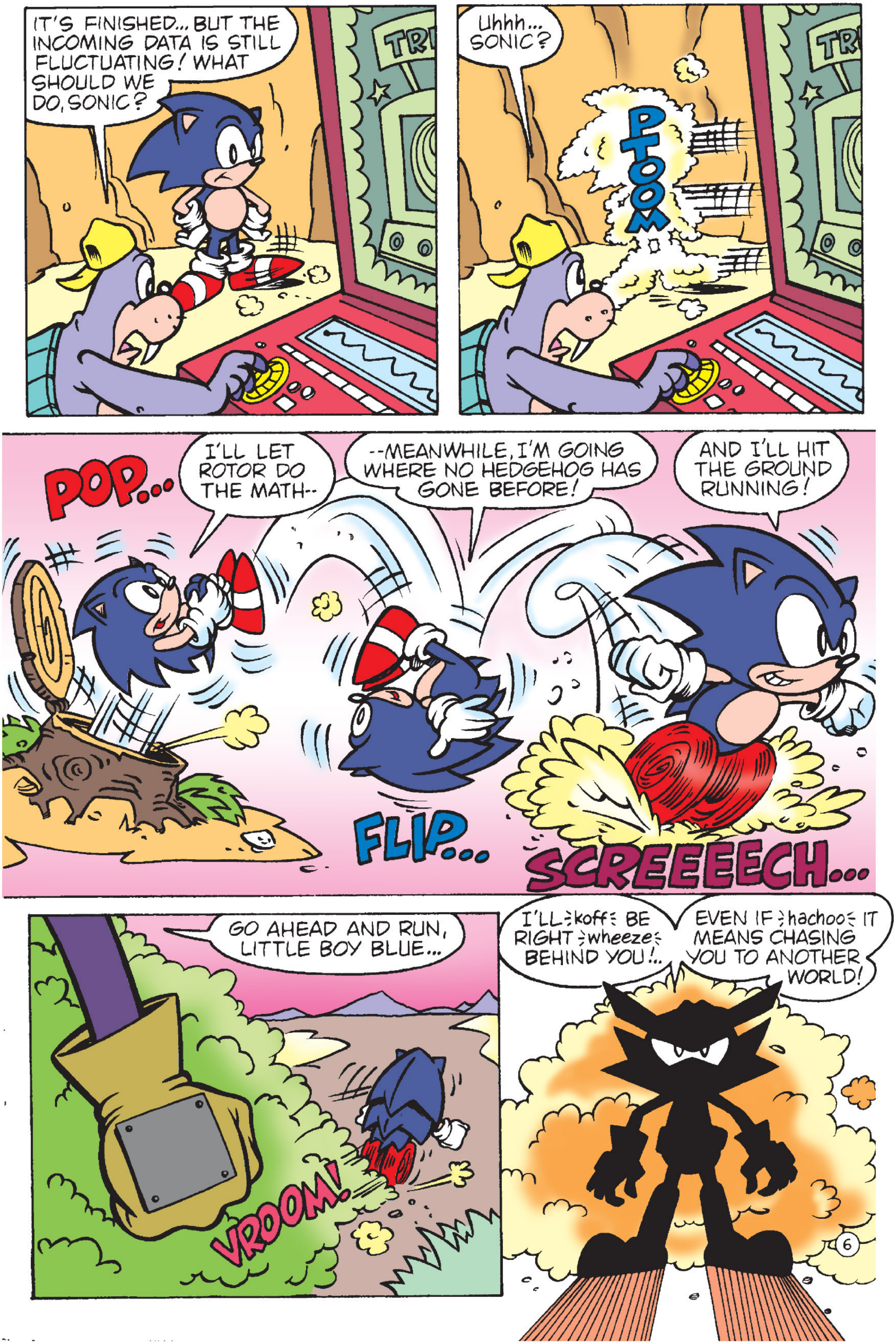

THE PIECES ARE ROCKETING INTO ORBIT ON OPPOSITE VECTORS!
SHOOM
SEC LA

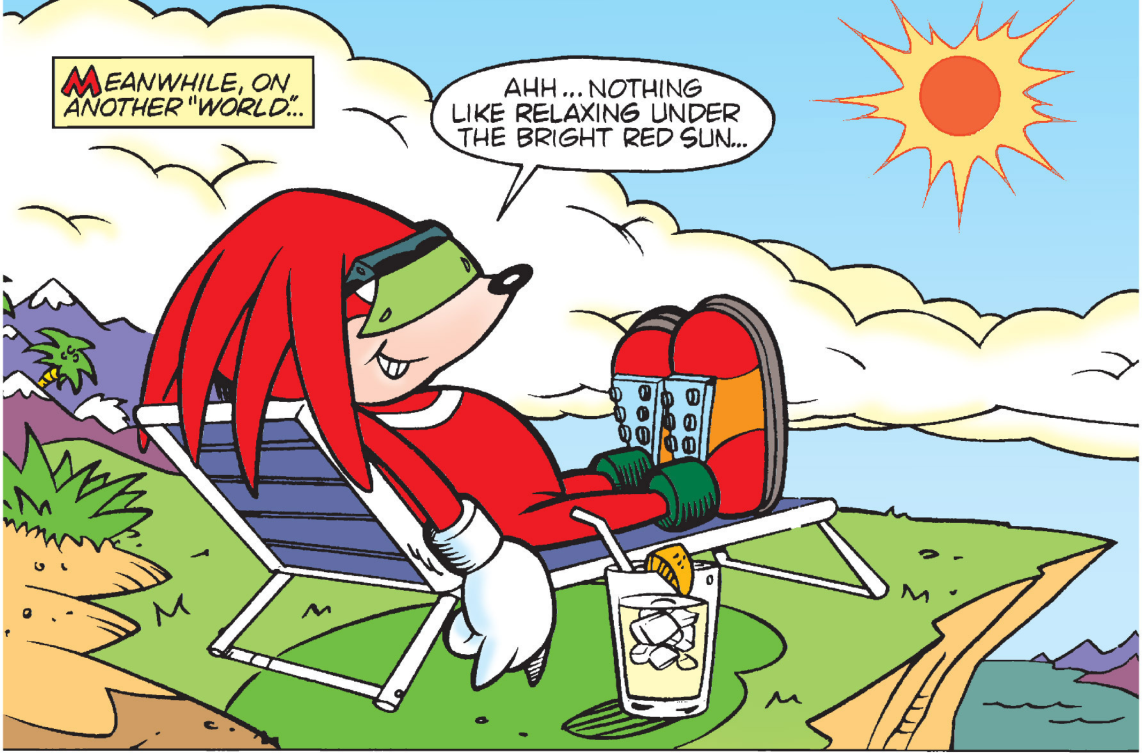

"THEY MUST BE RETRIEVED! HALF A CHAOS EMERALD CAN BE DANGEROUSLY ERRATIC AND POWERFUL!"

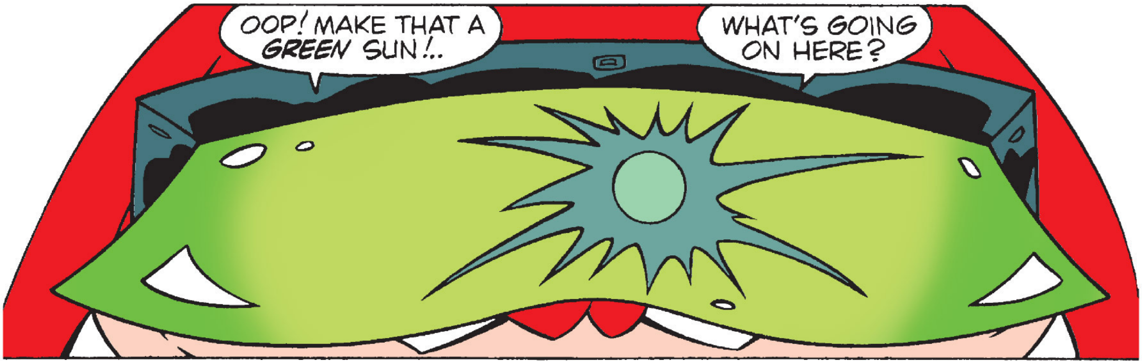

I MUST HAVE BOTH PIECES BACK! HELLO, CELLULAR OPERATOR? GET ME "BOUNTY HUNTERS 'Я' US"!
THE EMERALD CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF MY MOST HATED ENEMY...

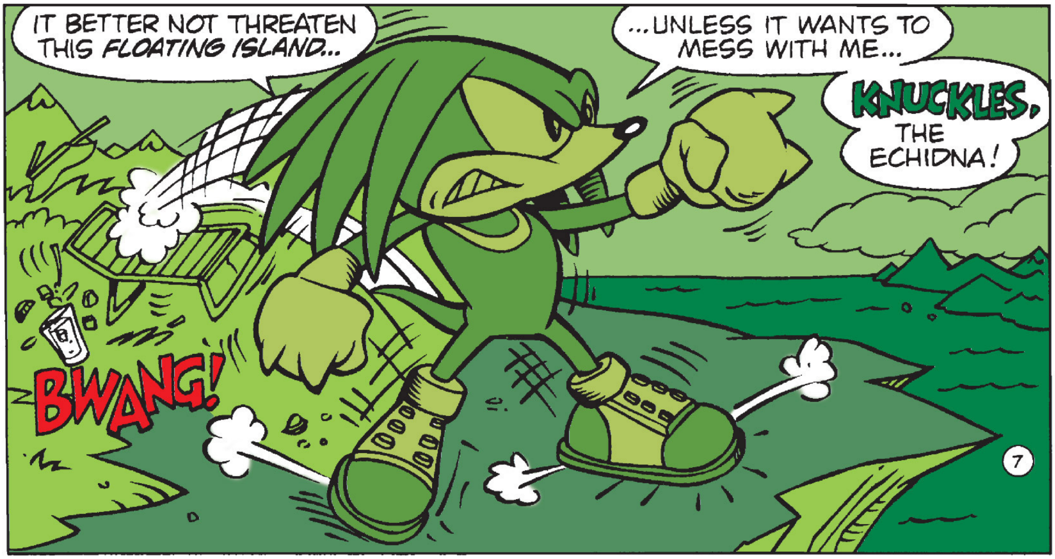

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!
I KNEW I'D FIND YOU IN THE KNOTHOLE KITCHEN!
YOU KNOW IT, *TAILS!* WANT A CHILI DOG?
NO... I WANT YOU TO FOLLOW ME TO THE CONTROL ROOM... ROTOR'S ON TO SOMETHING!
SURE, BIG GUY!
KITCHEN
I THOUGHT ROTOR WAS WORKING ON THAT CUSTOMIZED ***SUBMARINE*** FOR YOU?..
ZOOM
ZOOM
HE WAS--UNTIL THIS THING SHOWED UP ON THE GRID SCREEN!
LOOK!
THE POWER READINGS ARE OFF THE SCALE!
ONLY ONE THING CAN GENERATE THAT KIND OF ENERGY SIGNATURE--
--A CHAOS EMERALD!

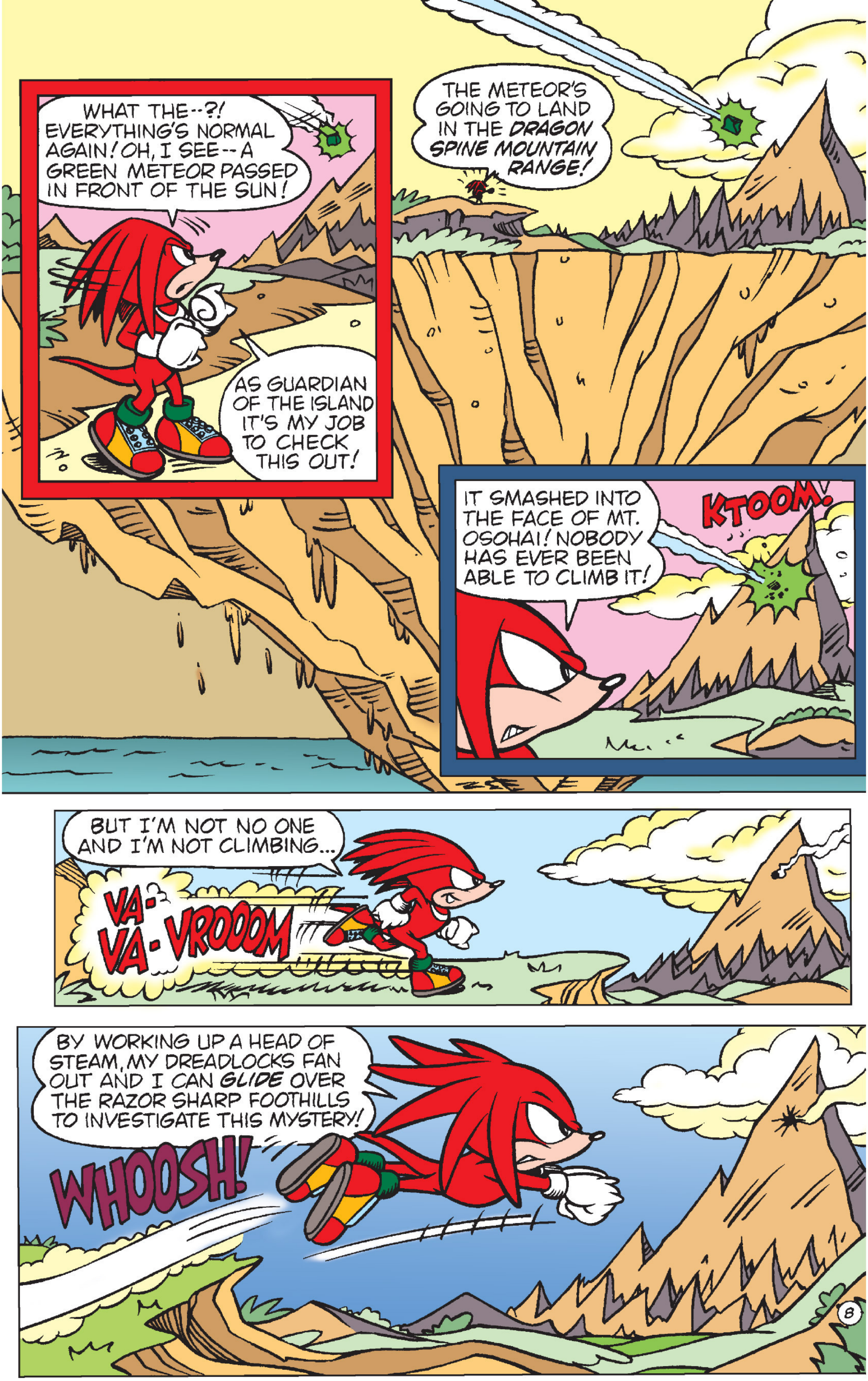

YES, BUT THE PATTERNS ARE ERRATIC... I THINK I CAN GET A VISUAL...
IT'S COMING IN LIKE A METEORITE...
WOW!
"...IT'S LANDED IN THE GREAT FOREST!"
TUNK!
WAY PAST COOL!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D LIVE TO SEE SUCH A THING!
IT'S ⁝shudder⁝ BREATHTAKING!
"THROUGH THE *MAGIC* OF THE CHAOS EMERALD, WE'RE WITNESSING THE CREATION OF A *NEW ZONE!*"*
5
* THE SAME TYPE OF "ACTION ZONES" FOUND IN ALL SONIC GAMES-Editor

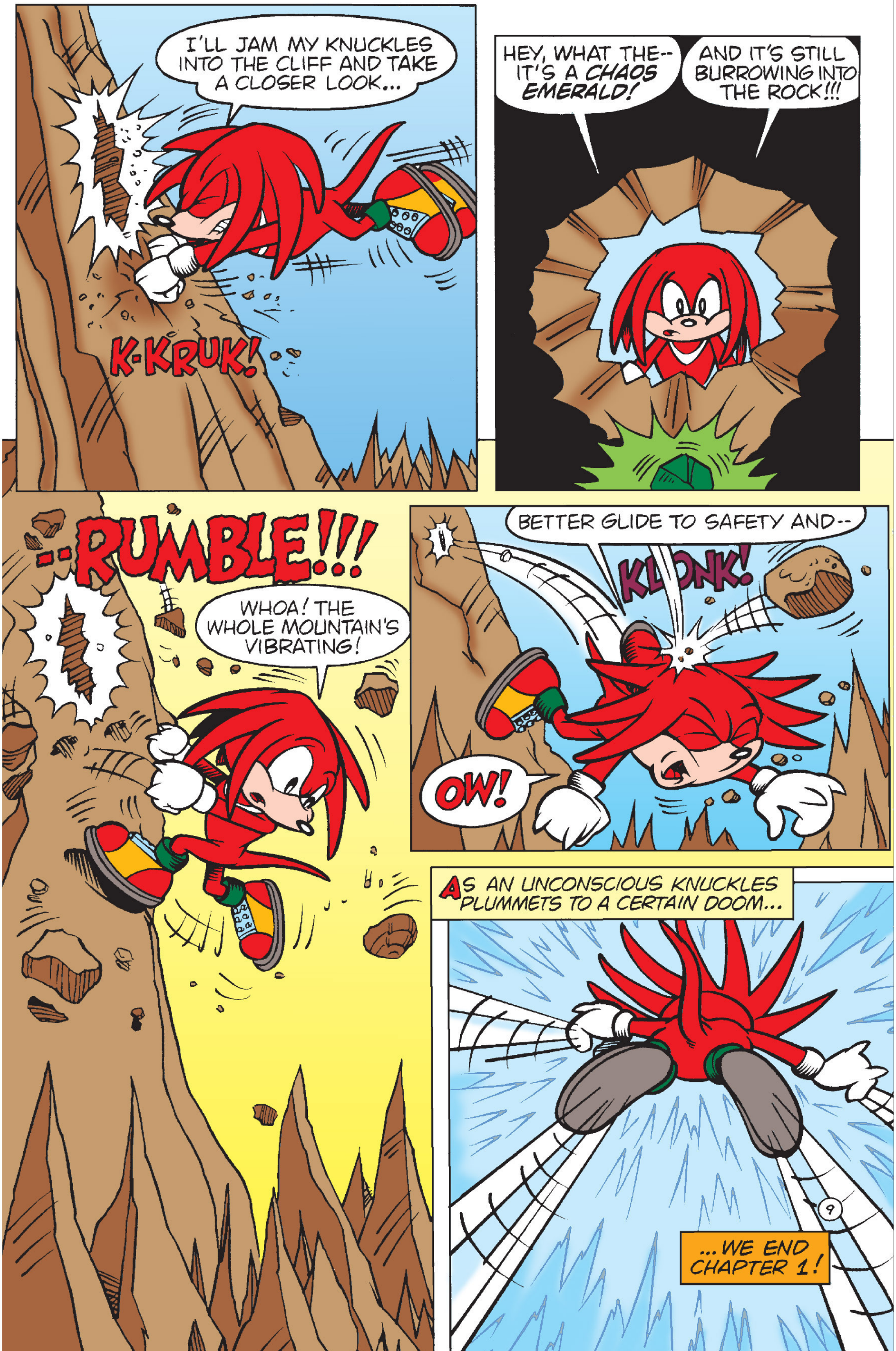

IT'S FINISHED... BUT THE INCOMING DATA IS STILL FLUCTUATING! WHAT SHOULD WE DO, SONIC?
TR
Uhhh... SONIC?
PTOOM
TR
POP...
I'LL LET ROTOR DO THE MATH--
--MEANWHILE, I'M GOING WHERE NO HEDGEHOG HAS GONE BEFORE!
AND I'LL HIT THE GROUND RUNNING!
FLIP...
SCREEEECH...
GO AHEAD AND RUN, LITTLE BOY BLUE...
VROOM!
I'LL ⫶koff⫶ BE RIGHT ⫶wheeze⫶ BEHIND YOU!..
EVEN IF ⫶hachoo⫶ IT MEANS CHASING YOU TO ANOTHER WORLD!

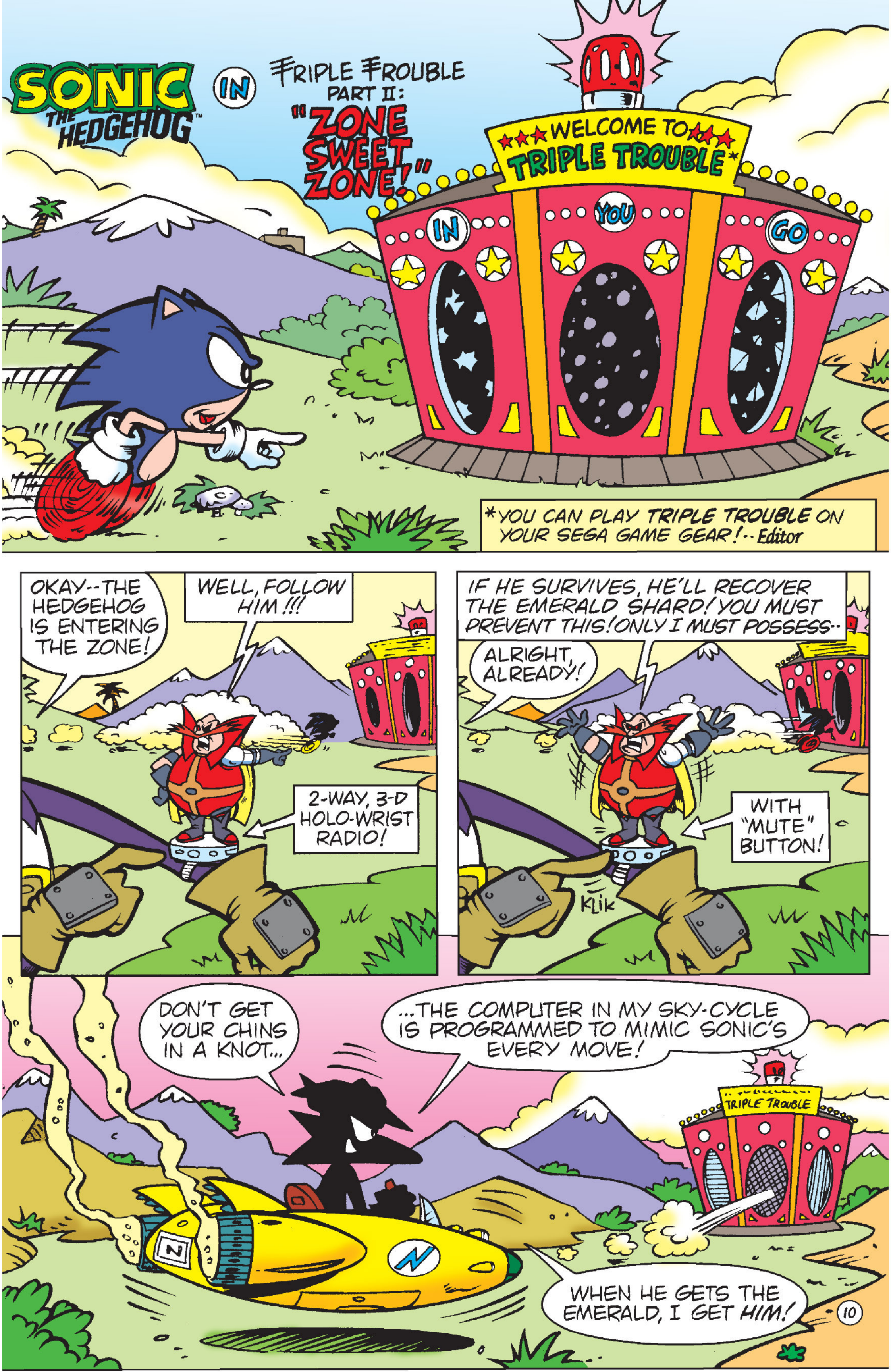

MEANWHILE, ON ANOTHER "WORLD"...
AHH ... NOTHING LIKE RELAXING UNDER THE BRIGHT RED SUN...

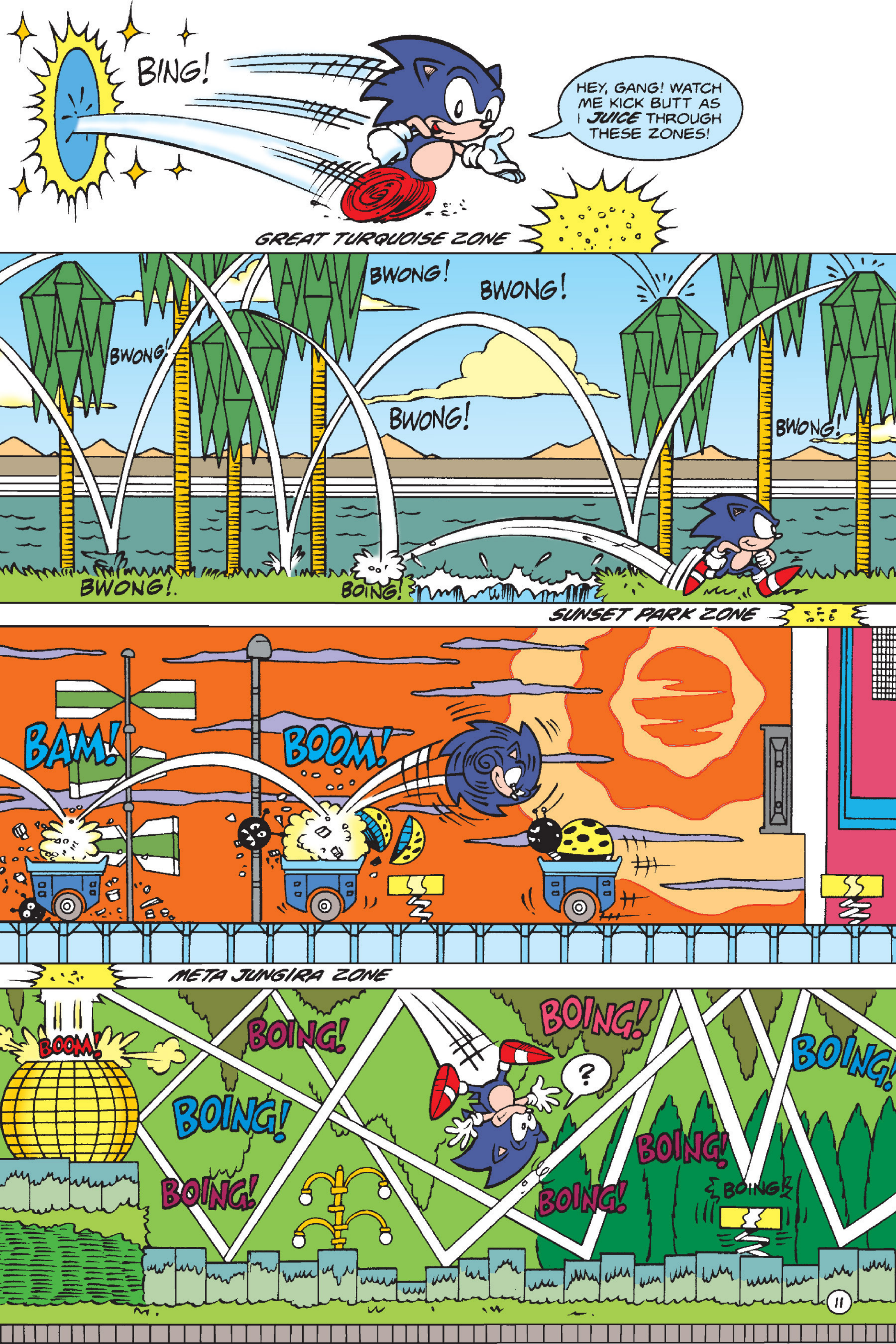

OOP! MAKE THAT A *GREEN* SUN!..
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

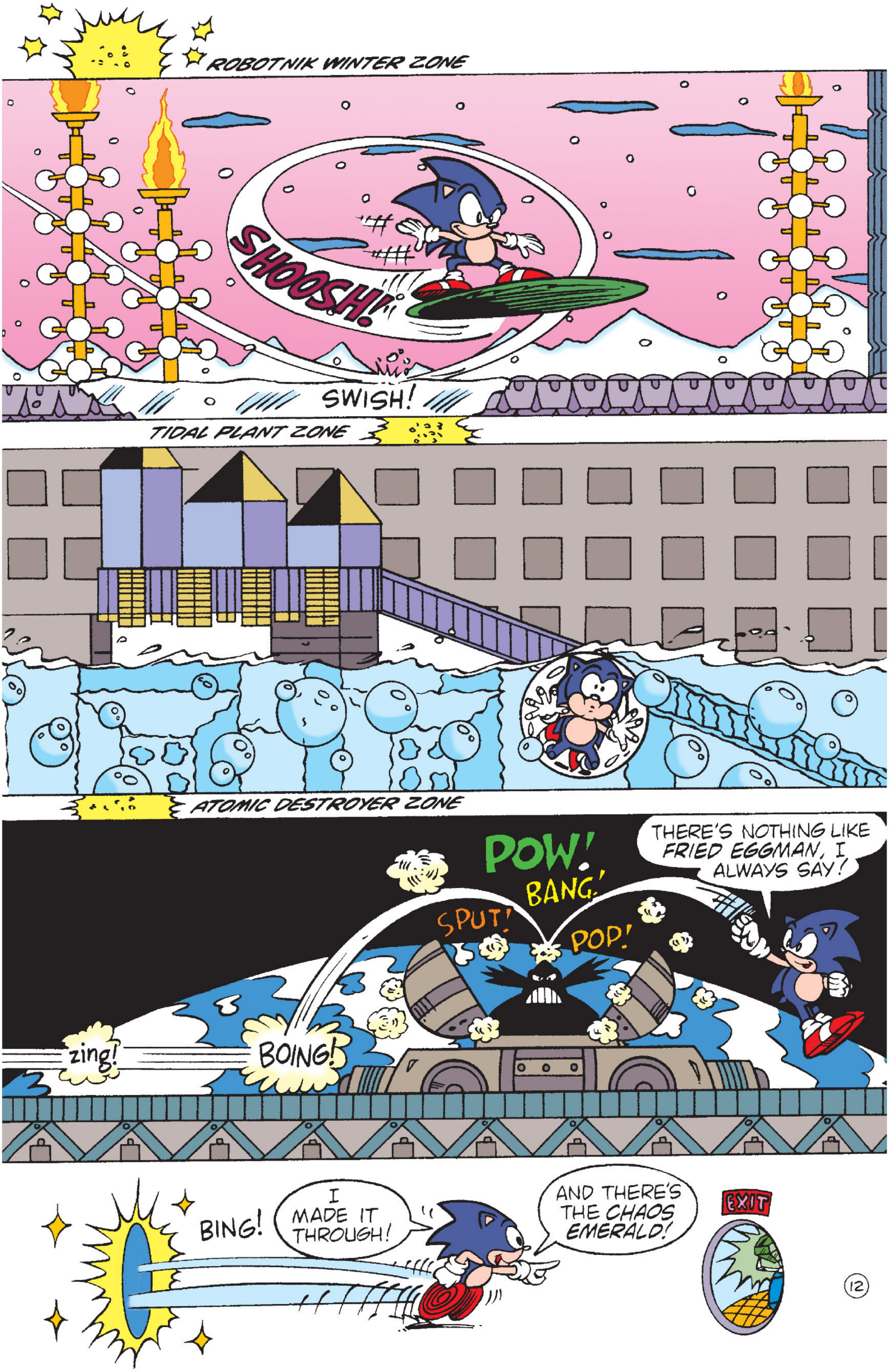

IT BETTER NOT THREATEN THIS *FLOATING ISLAND*...
...UNLESS IT WANTS TO MESS WITH ME...
KNUCKLES, THE ECHIDNA!
BWANG!

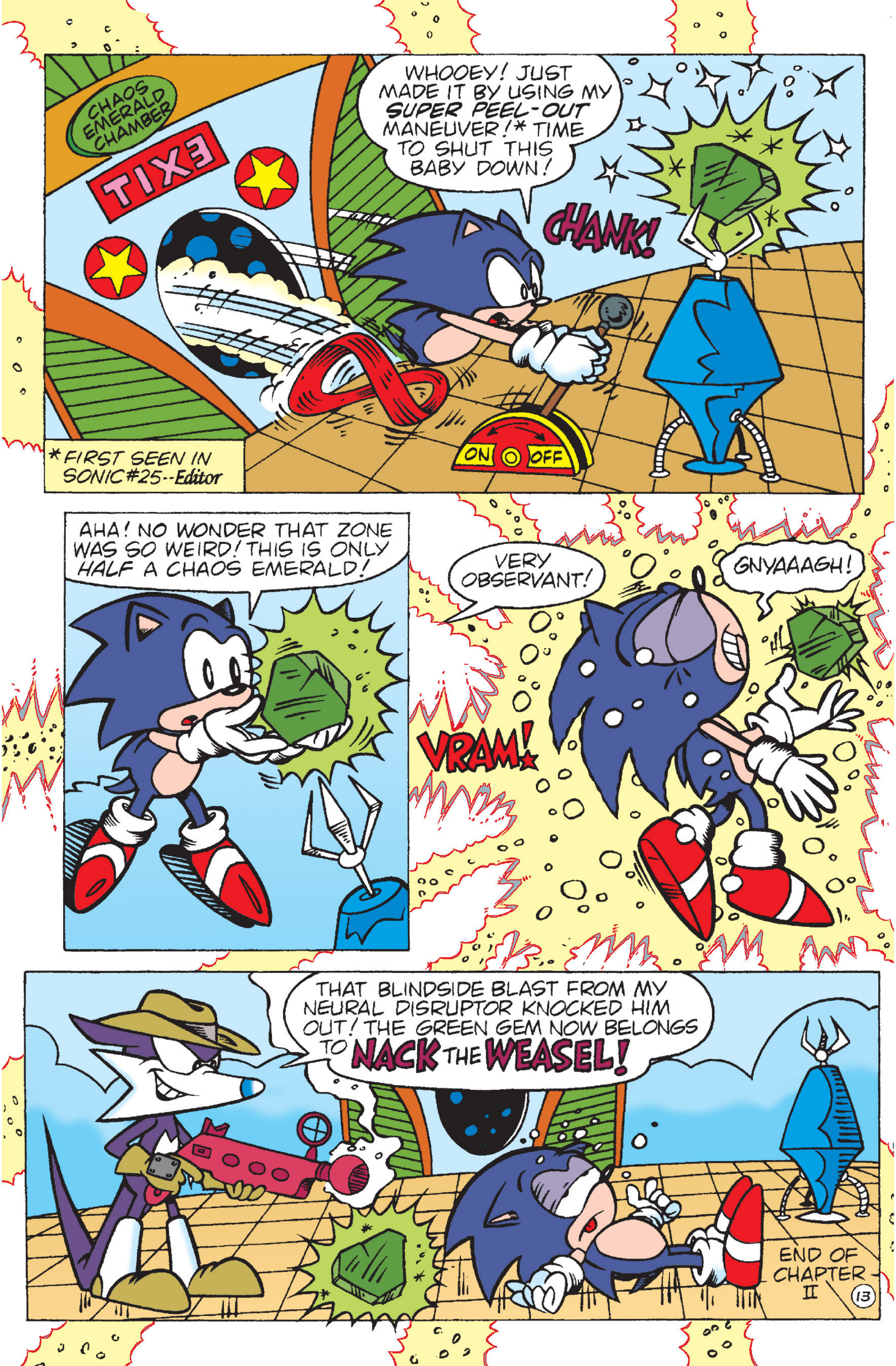

WHAT THE--?! EVERYTHING'S NORMAL AGAIN! OH, I SEE--A GREEN METEOR PASSED IN FRONT OF THE SUN!
AS GUARDIAN OF THE ISLAND IT'S MY JOB TO CHECK THIS OUT!
THE METEOR'S GOING TO LAND IN THE *DRAGON SPINE MOUNTAIN RANGE!*
IT SMASHED INTO THE FACE OF MT. OSOHAI! NOBODY HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO CLIMB IT!
KTOOM!
BUT I'M NOT NO ONE AND I'M NOT CLIMBING...
VA-VA-VROOOM
BY WORKING UP A HEAD OF STEAM, MY DREADLOCKS FAN OUT AND I CAN *GLIDE* OVER THE RAZOR SHARP FOOTHILLS TO INVESTIGATE THIS MYSTERY!
WHOOSH!

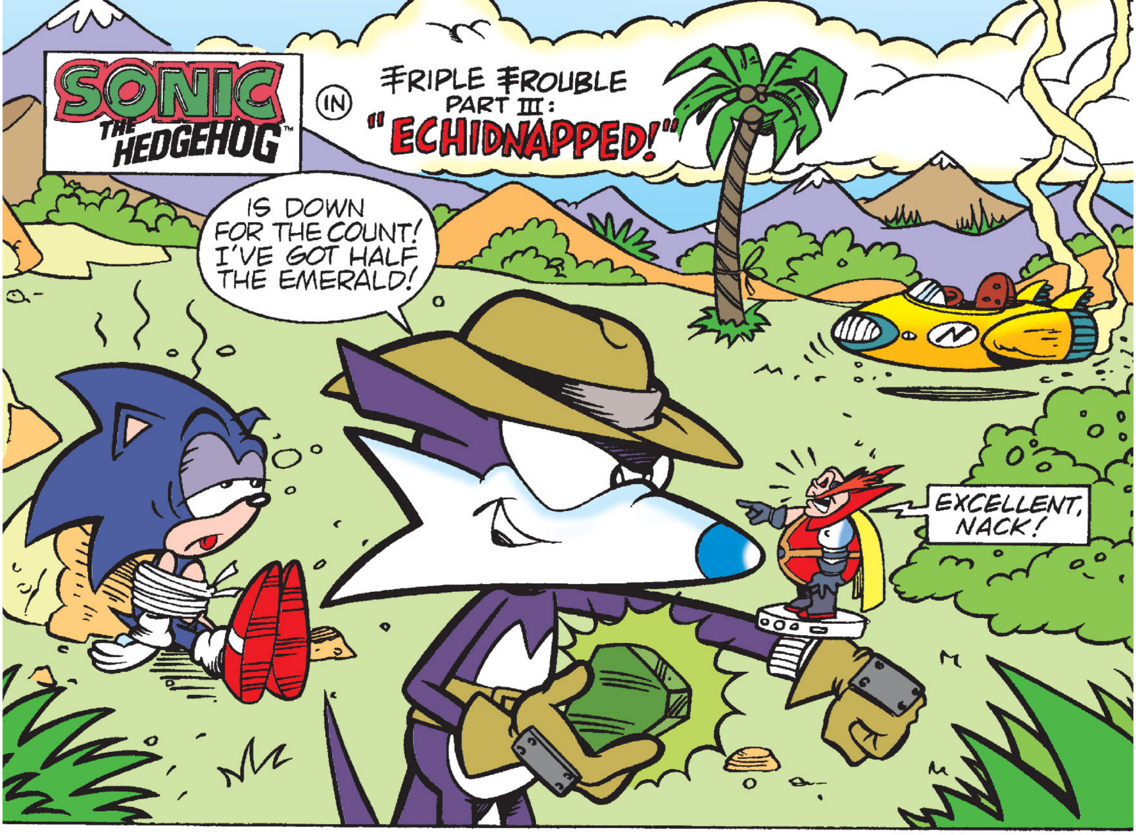

I'LL JAM MY KNUCKLES INTO THE CLIFF AND TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...
K-KRUK!
HEY, WHAT THE-- IT'S A *CHAOS EMERALD!*
AND IT'S STILL BURROWING INTO THE ROCK!!!
--RUMBLE!!!
WHOA! THE WHOLE MOUNTAIN'S VIBRATING!
BETTER GLIDE TO SAFETY AND--
KLONK!
OW!
AS AN UNCONSCIOUS KNUCKLES PLUMMETS TO A CERTAIN DOOM...
...WE END CHAPTER 1!

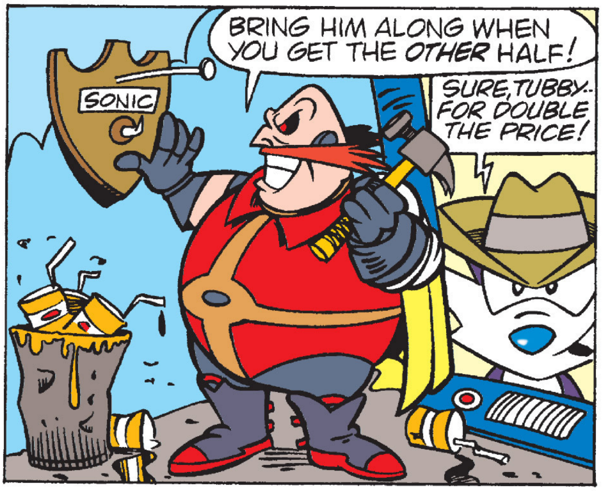

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
IN
TRIPLE TROUBLE
PART II:
"ZONE SWEET ZONE!"
WELCOME TO TRIPLE TROUBLE*
IN
YOU
GO
*YOU CAN PLAY TRIPLE TROUBLE ON YOUR SEGA GAME GEAR! -- Editor
OKAY--THE HEDGEHOG IS ENTERING THE ZONE!
WELL, FOLLOW HIM!!!
2-WAY, 3-D HOLO-WRIST RADIO!
IF HE SURVIVES, HE'LL RECOVER THE EMERALD SHARD! YOU MUST PREVENT THIS! ONLY I MUST POSSESS--
ALRIGHT, ALREADY!
WITH "MUTE" BUTTON!
KLIK
DON'T GET YOUR CHINS IN A KNOT...
...THE COMPUTER IN MY SKY-CYCLE IS PROGRAMMED TO MIMIC SONIC'S EVERY MOVE!
TRIPLE TROUBLE
WHEN HE GETS THE EMERALD, I GET HIM!

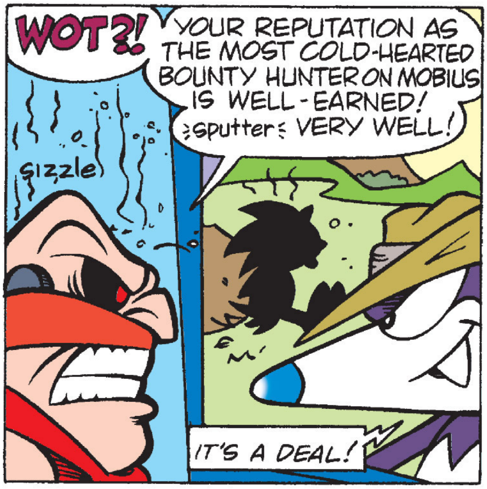

BING!
HEY, GANG! WATCH ME KICK BUTT AS I *JUICE* THROUGH THESE ZONES!
GREAT TURQUOISE ZONE
BWONG!
BWONG!
BWONG!
BWONG!
BWONG!
BWONG!.
BOING!
SUNSET PARK ZONE
BAM!
BOOM!
META JUNGIRA ZONE
BOOM!
BOING!
BOING!
BOING!
BOING!
?
BOING!
BOING!
BOING!
BOING!

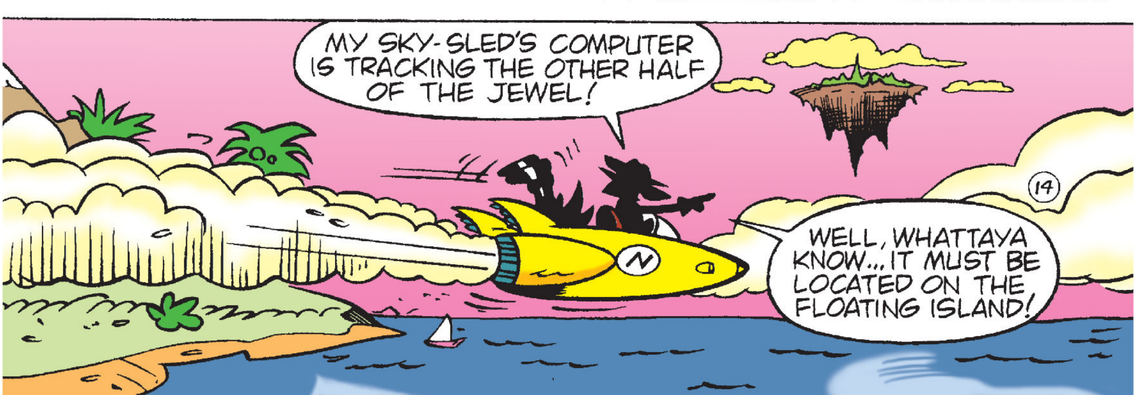

ROBOTNIK WINTER ZONE
SHOOSH!
SWISH!
TIDAL PLANT ZONE
ATOMIC DESTROYER ZONE
POW!
BANG!
SPUT!
POP!
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE FRIED EGGMAN, I ALWAYS SAY!
zing!
BOING!
BING!
I MADE IT THROUGH!
AND THERE'S THE CHAOS EMERALD!
EXIT

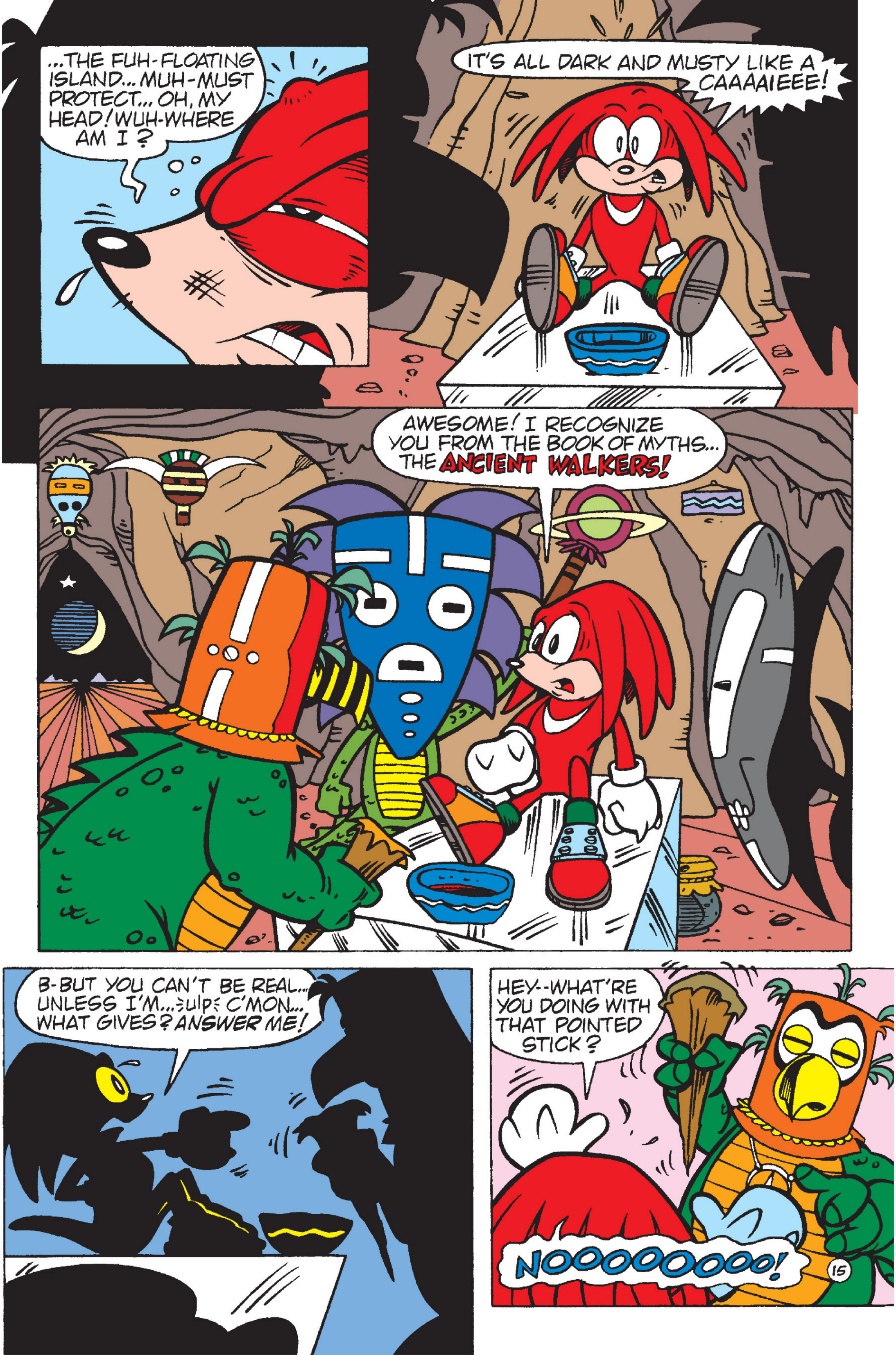

CHAOS EMERALD CHAMBER
TIXE
WHOOEY! JUST MADE IT BY USING MY SUPER PEEL-OUT MANEUVER!* TIME TO SHUT THIS BABY DOWN!
CHANK!
ON OFF
*FIRST SEEN IN SONIC #25--Editor
AHA! NO WONDER THAT ZONE WAS SO WEIRD! THIS IS ONLY HALF A CHAOS EMERALD!
VERY OBSERVANT!
GNYAAAGH!
VRAM!
THAT BLINDSIDE BLAST FROM MY NEURAL DISRUPTOR KNOCKED HIM OUT! THE GREEN GEM NOW BELONGS TO NACK THE WEASEL!
END OF CHAPTER II

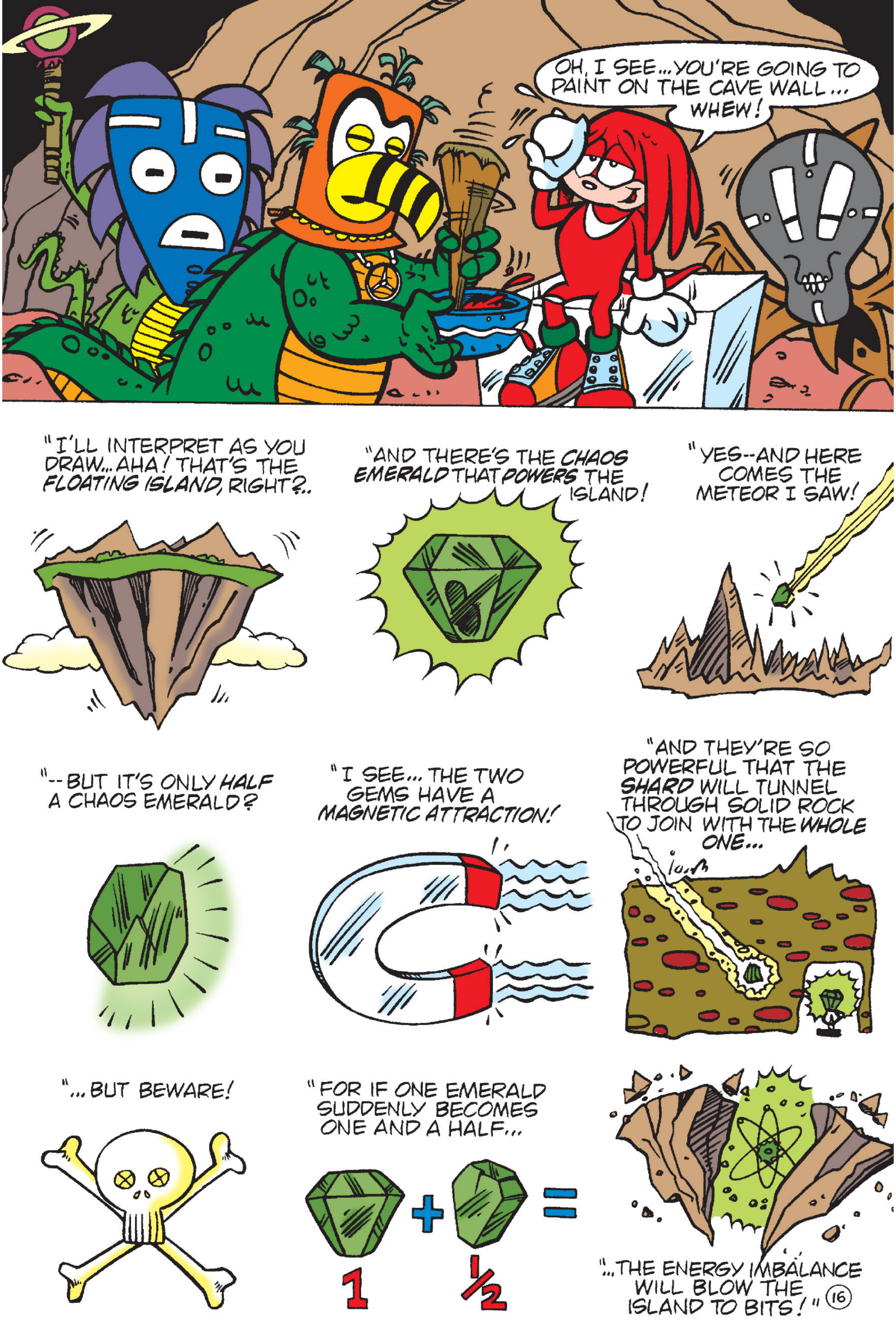

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
IN
TRIPLE TROUBLE PART III: "ECHIDNAPPED!"
IS DOWN FOR THE COUNT! I'VE GOT HALF THE EMERALD!
EXCELLENT, NACK!

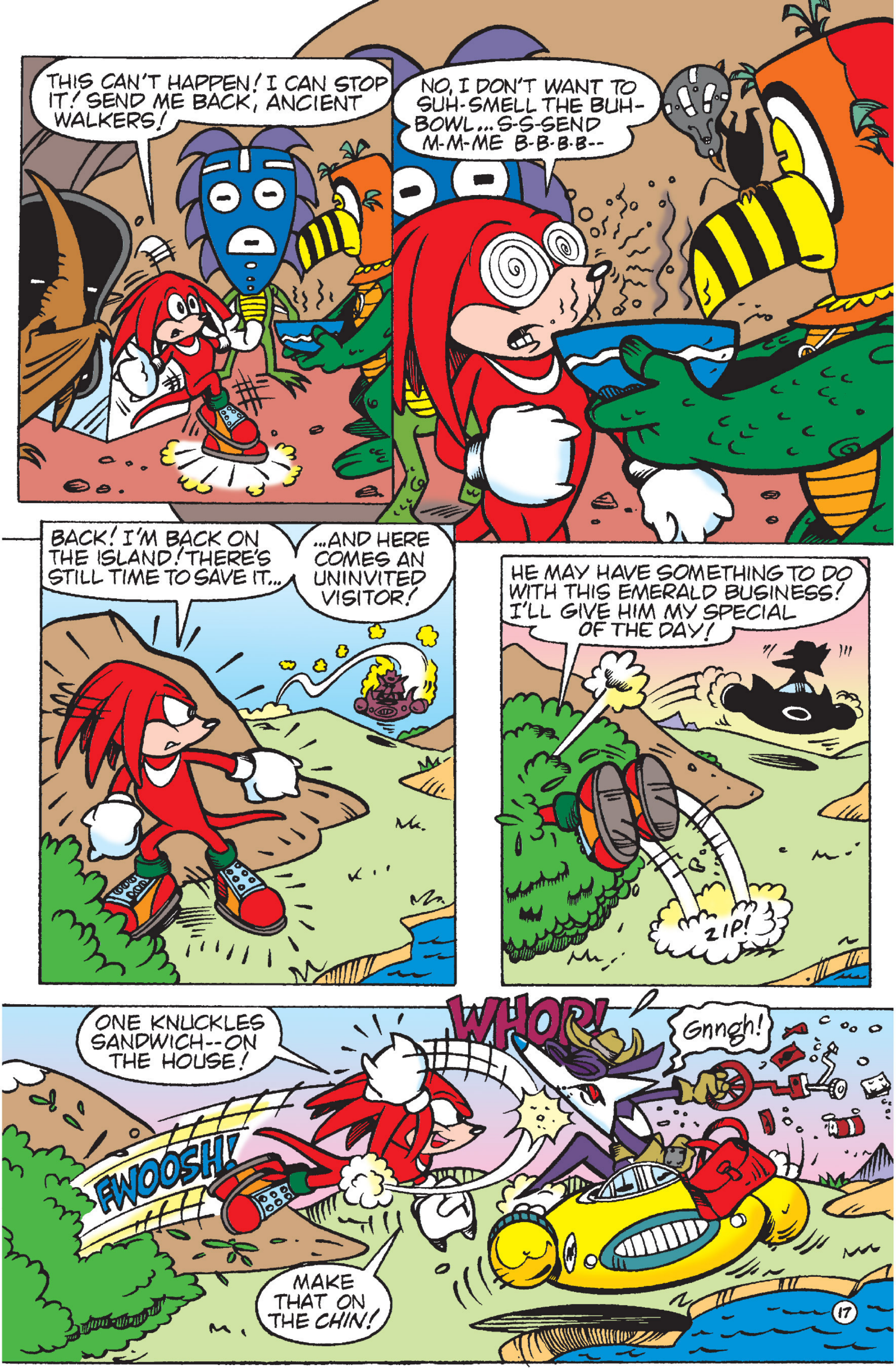

SONIC
BRING HIM ALONG WHEN YOU GET THE *OTHER* HALF!
SURE, TUBBY... FOR DOUBLE THE PRICE!

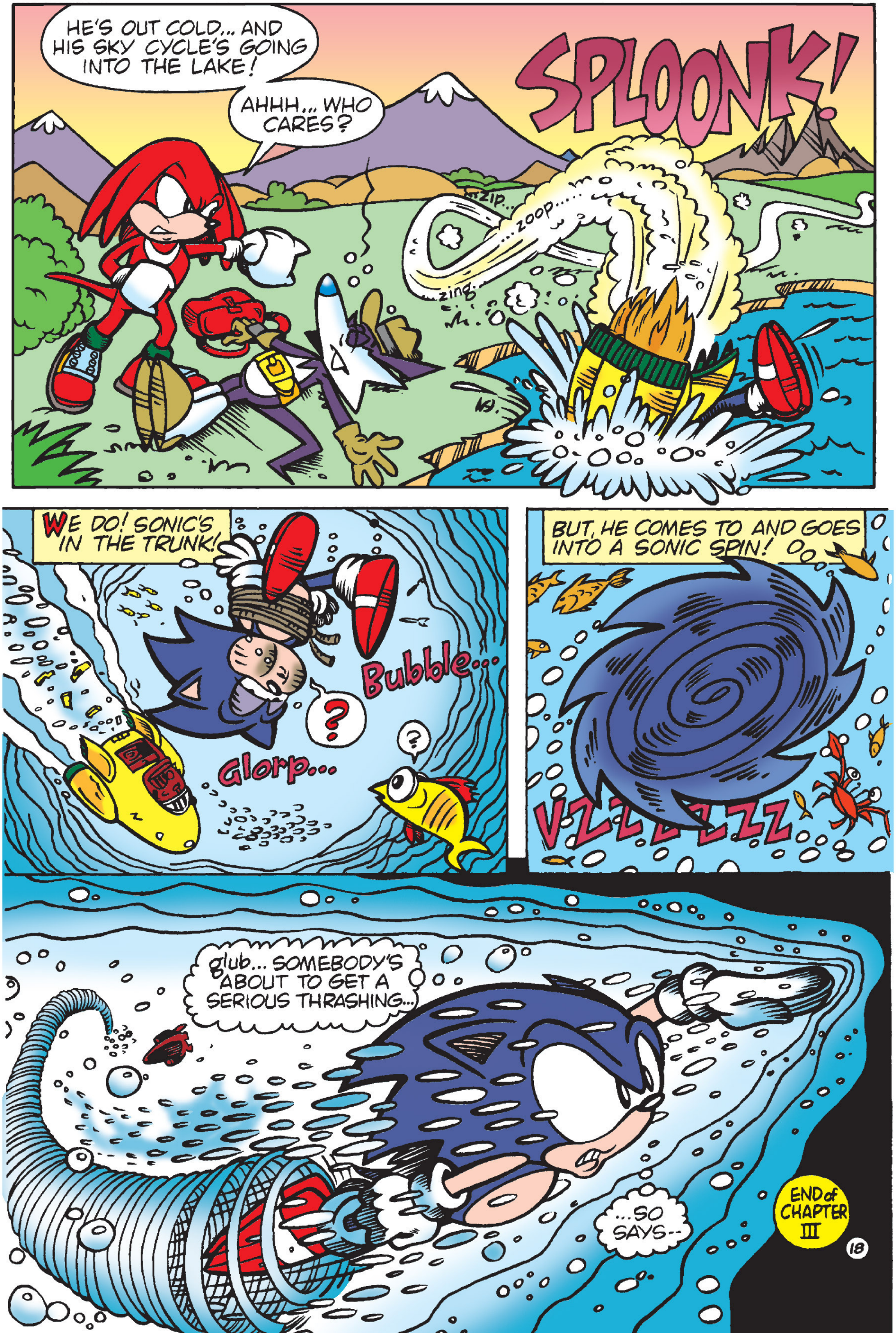

WOT?!
sizzle
YOUR REPUTATION AS THE MOST COLD-HEARTED BOUNTY HUNTER ON MOBIUS IS WELL-EARNED! ≷sputter≶ VERY WELL!
IT'S A DEAL!

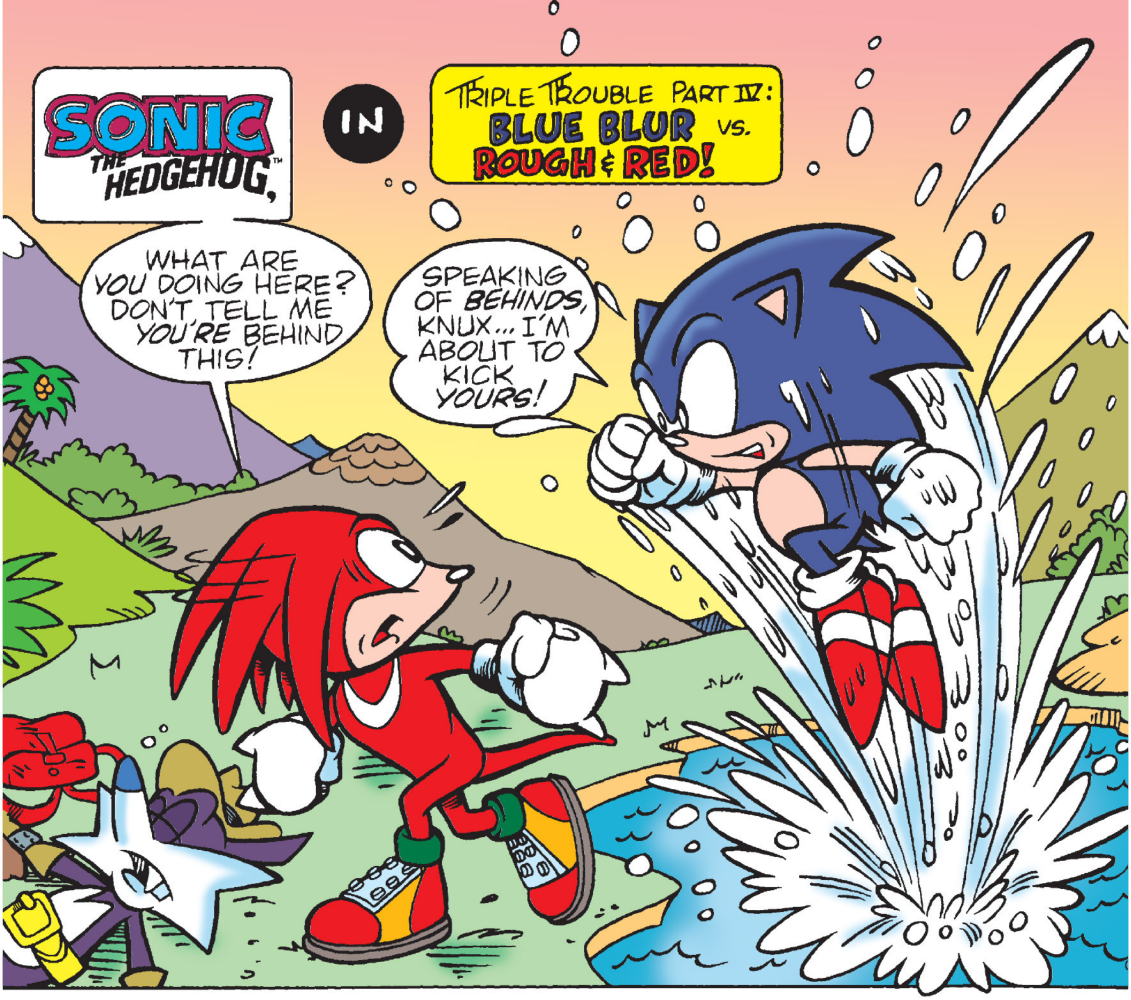

MY SKY-SLED'S COMPUTER IS TRACKING THE OTHER HALF OF THE JEWEL!
N
WELL, WHATTAYA KNOW... IT MUST BE LOCATED ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!

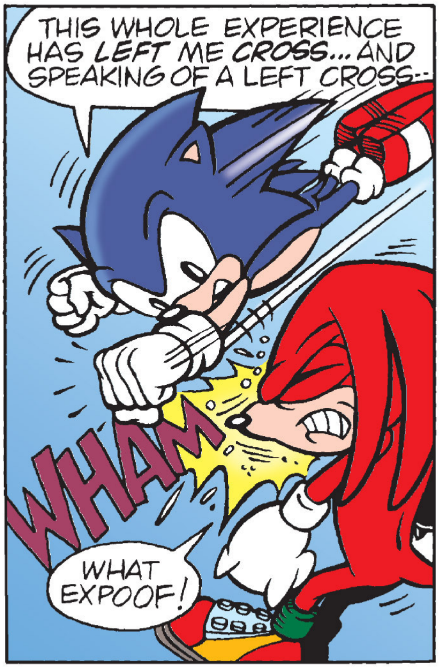

...THE FUH-FLOATING ISLAND... MUH-MUST PROTECT... OH, MY HEAD! WUH-WHERE AM I?
IT'S ALL DARK AND MUSTY LIKE A CAAAAIEEE!
AWESOME! I RECOGNIZE YOU FROM THE BOOK OF MYTHS... THE ANCIENT WALKERS!
B-BUT YOU CAN'T BE REAL... UNLESS I'M... gulp C'MON... WHAT GIVES? ANSWER ME!
HEY--WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH THAT POINTED STICK?
NOOOOOOOOO!

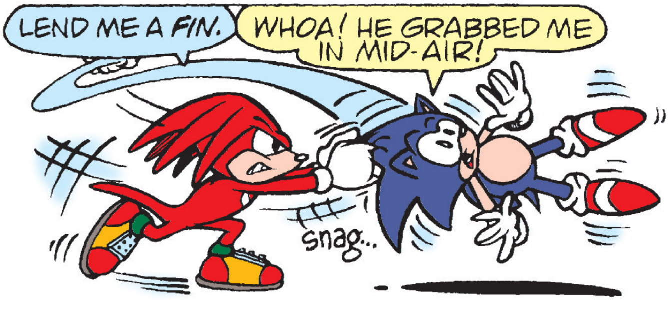

OH, I SEE...YOU'RE GOING TO PAINT ON THE CAVE WALL... WHEW!
"I'LL INTERPRET AS YOU DRAW...AHA! THAT'S THE FLOATING ISLAND, RIGHT?..
"AND THERE'S THE CHAOS EMERALD THAT POWERS THE ISLAND!
"YES--AND HERE COMES THE METEOR I SAW!
"--BUT IT'S ONLY HALF A CHAOS EMERALD?
"I SEE... THE TWO GEMS HAVE A MAGNETIC ATTRACTION!
"AND THEY'RE SO POWERFUL THAT THE SHARD WILL TUNNEL THROUGH SOLID ROCK TO JOIN WITH THE WHOLE ONE...
"...BUT BEWARE!
"FOR IF ONE EMERALD SUDDENLY BECOMES ONE AND A HALF...
1 + ½ =
"...THE ENERGY IMBALANCE WILL BLOW THE ISLAND TO BITS!"

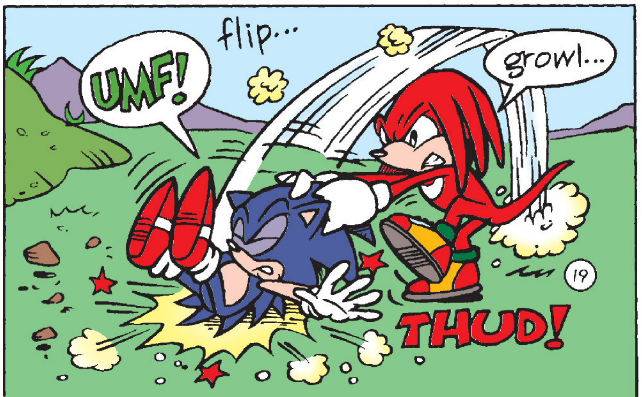

THIS CAN'T HAPPEN! I CAN STOP IT! SEND ME BACK, ANCIENT WALKERS!
NO, I DON'T WANT TO SUH-SMELL THE BUH-BOWL... S-S-SEND M-M-ME B-B-B-B--
BACK! I'M BACK ON THE ISLAND! THERE'S STILL TIME TO SAVE IT...
...AND HERE COMES AN UNINVITED VISITOR!
HE MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS EMERALD BUSINESS! I'LL GIVE HIM MY SPECIAL OF THE DAY!
ZIP!
ONE KNUCKLES SANDWICH--ON THE HOUSE!
WHOP!
Gnngh!
FWOOSH!
MAKE THAT ON THE CHIN!

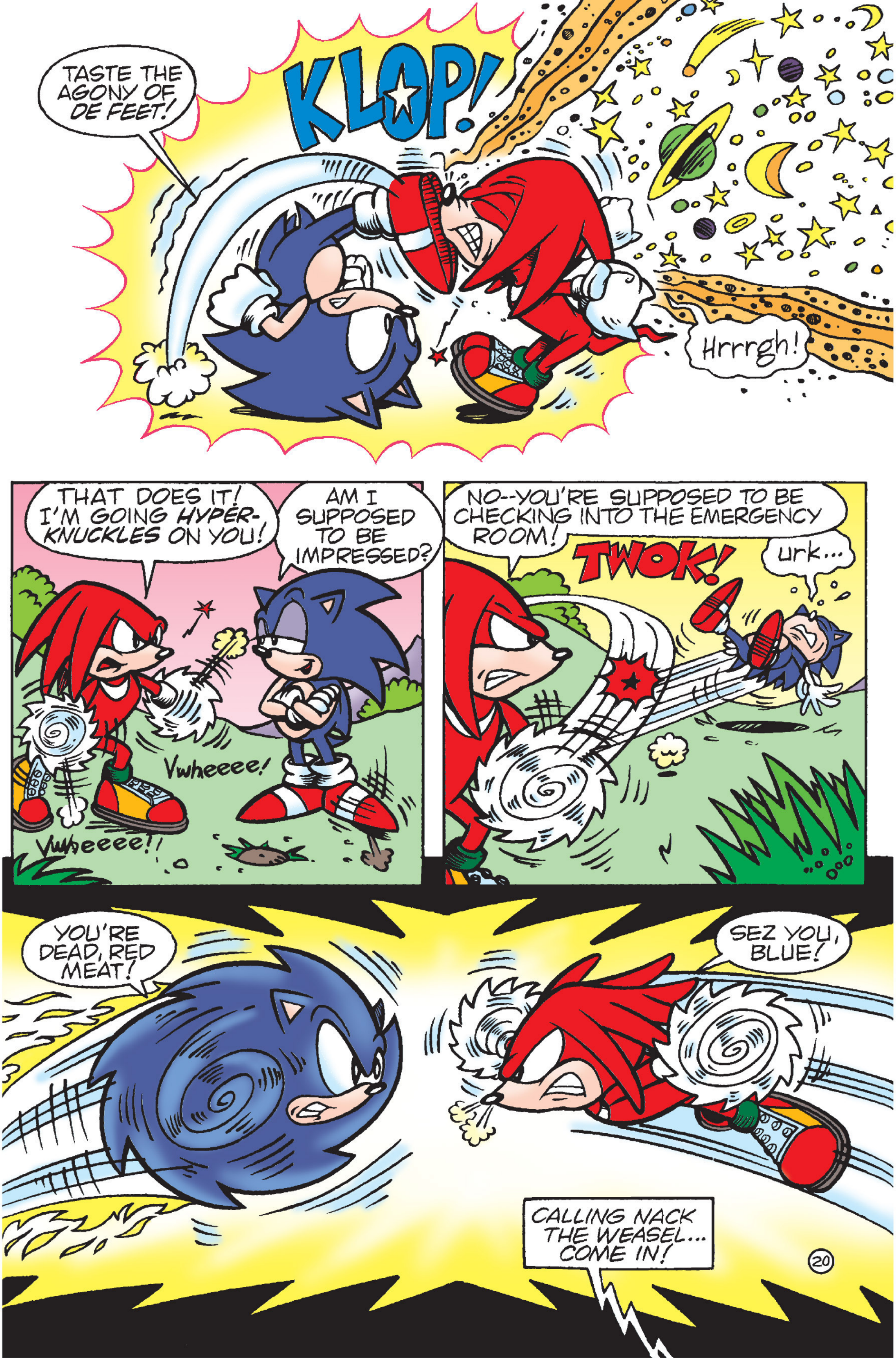

HE'S OUT COLD... AND HIS SKY CYCLE'S GOING INTO THE LAKE!
AHHH... WHO CARES?
SPLOONK!
zip...
...zoop...
zing.
WE DO! SONIC'S IN THE TRUNK!
Bubble...
?
Glorp...
?
BUT, HE COMES TO AND GOES INTO A SONIC SPIN!
VZZZZZZZ
glub... SOMEBODY'S ABOUT TO GET A SERIOUS THRASHING...
...SO SAYS--
END of CHAPTER III

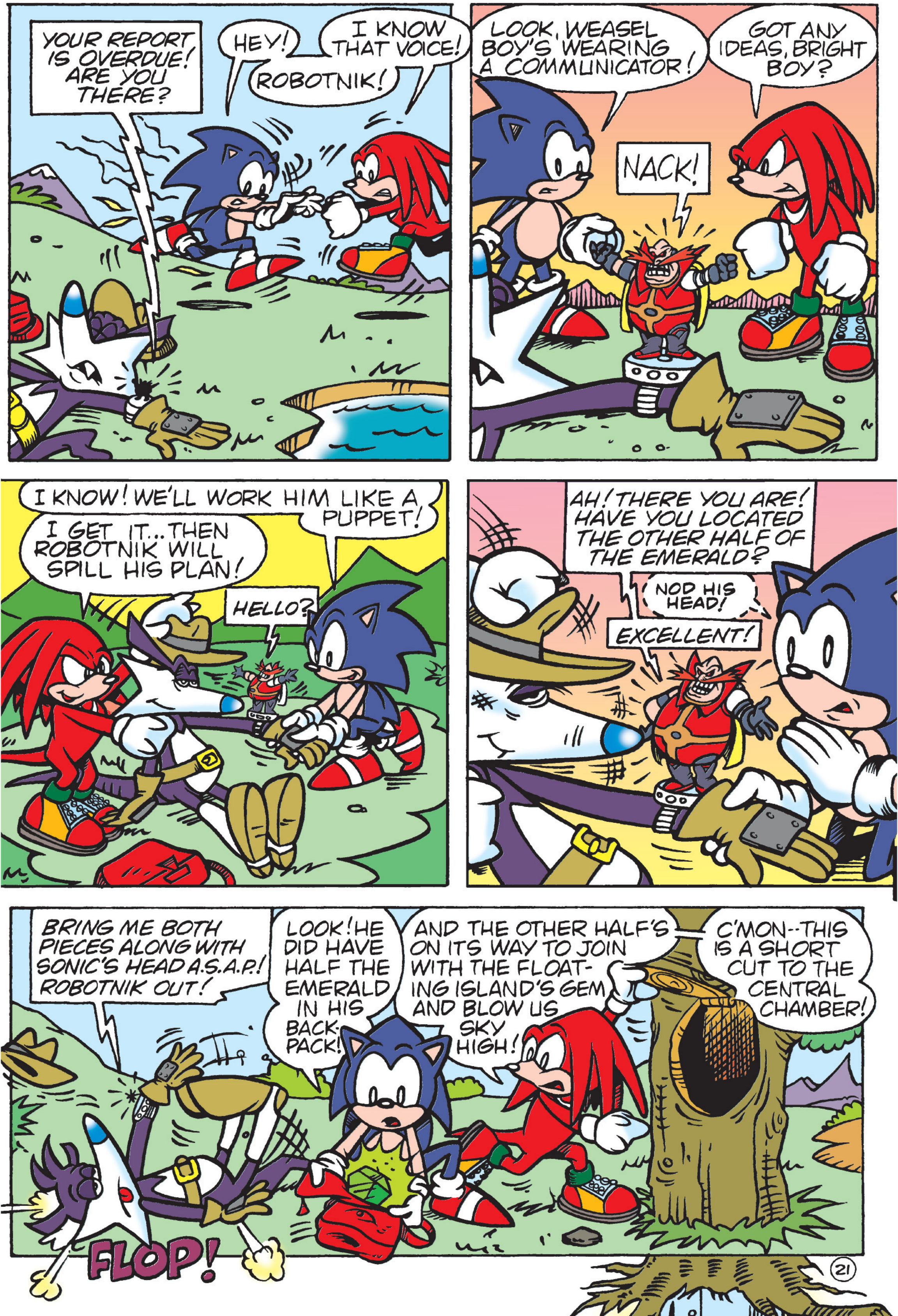

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG,
IN
TRIPLE TROUBLE PART IV:
BLUE BLUR VS. ROUGH & RED!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE BEHIND THIS!
SPEAKING OF BEHINDS, KNUX... I'M ABOUT TO KICK YOURS!

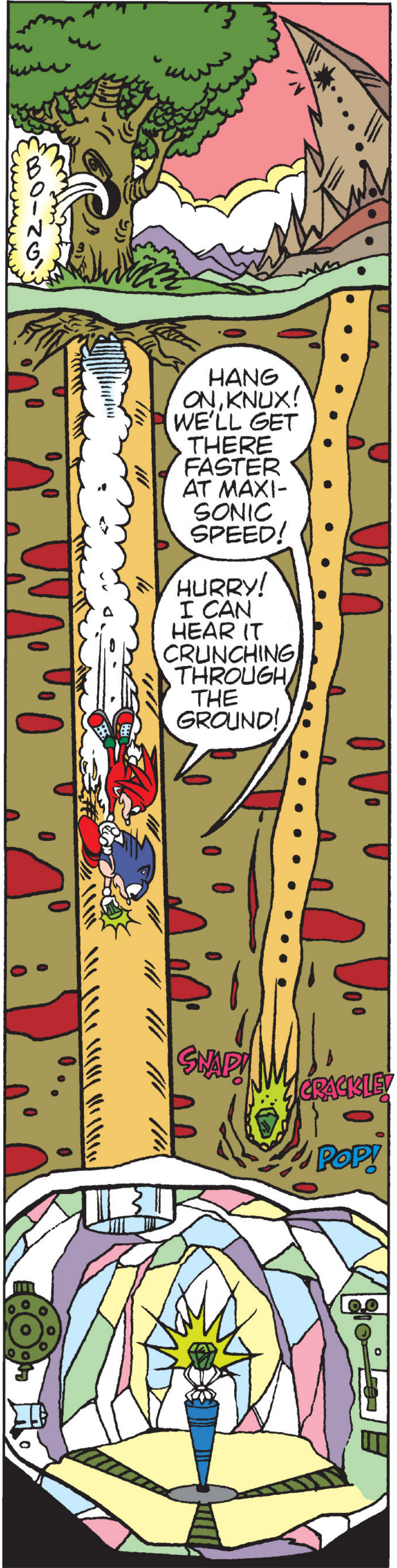

THIS WHOLE EXPERIENCE HAS LEFT ME CROSS... AND SPEAKING OF A LEFT CROSS...
WHAM
WHAT EXPOOF!

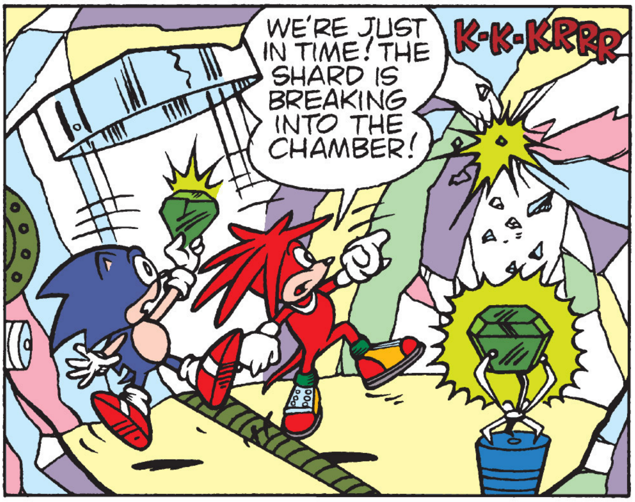

LEND ME A FIN.
WHOA! HE GRABBED ME IN MID-AIR!
snag...

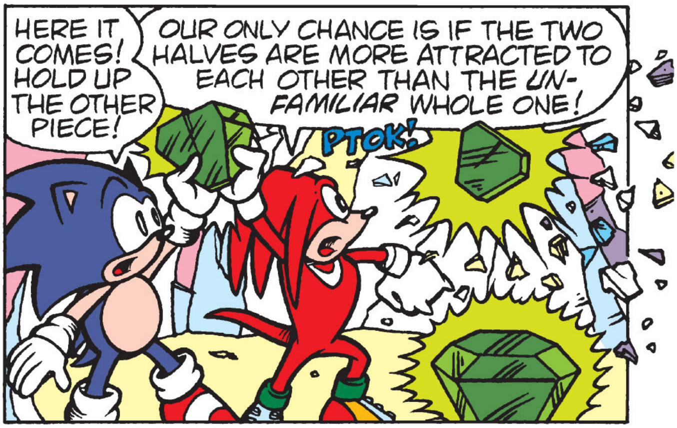

flip...
UMF!
growl...
THUD!

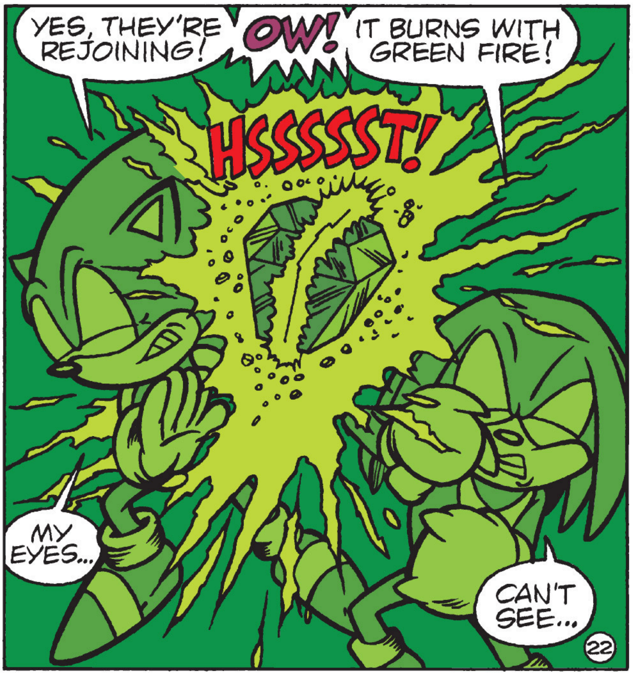

TASTE THE AGONY OF DE FEET!
KLOP!
Hrrrgh!
THAT DOES IT! I'M GOING HYPER-KNUCKLES ON YOU!
AM I SUPPOSED TO BE IMPRESSED?
Vwheeee!
Vwheeee!!
NO--YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE CHECKING INTO THE EMERGENCY ROOM!
TWOK!
urk...
YOU'RE DEAD, RED MEAT!
SEZ YOU, BLUE!
CALLING NACK THE WEASEL... COME IN!

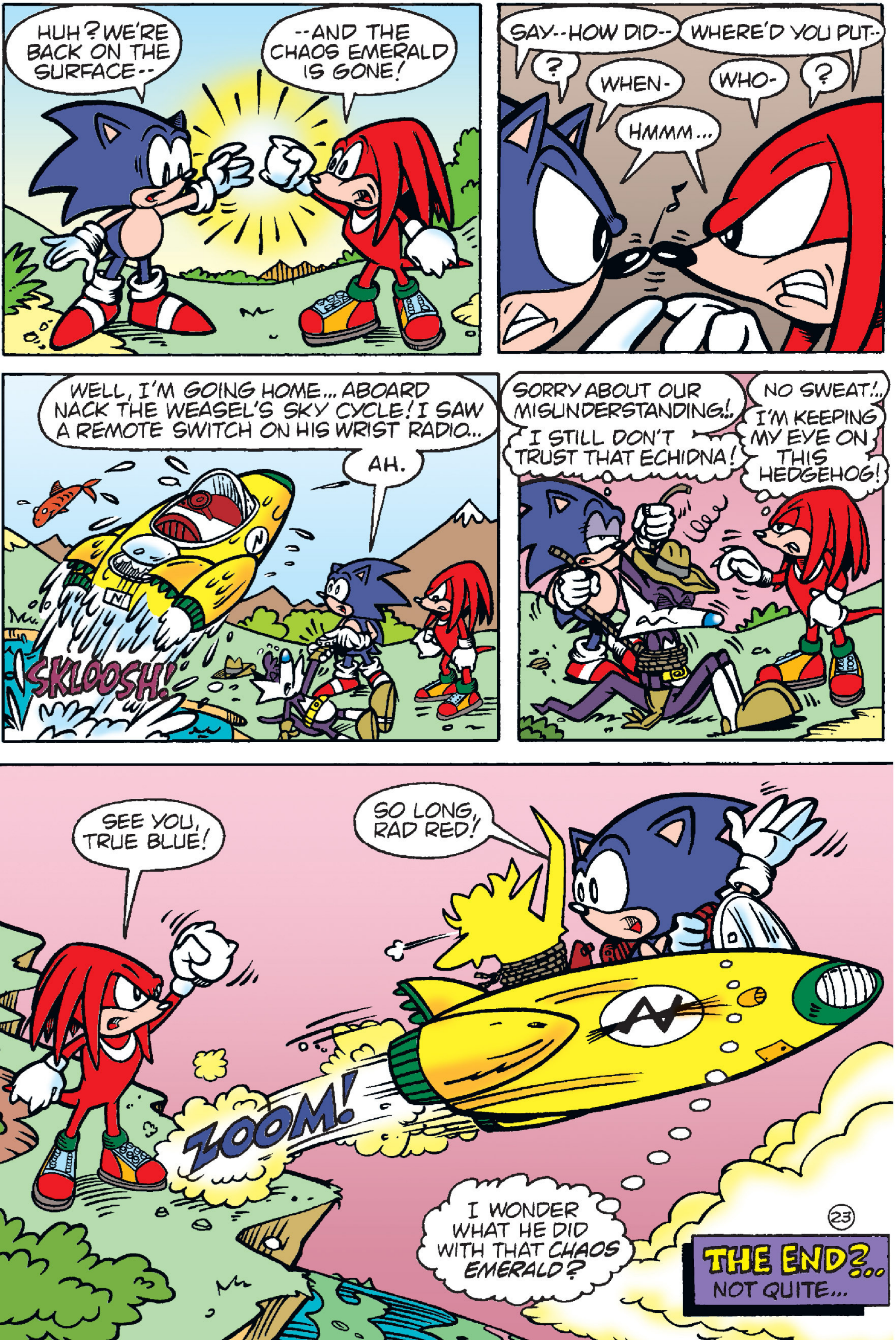

YOUR REPORT IS OVERDUE! ARE YOU THERE?
HEY!
I KNOW THAT VOICE!
ROBOTNIK!
LOOK, WEASEL BOY'S WEARING A COMMUNICATOR!
NACK!
GOT ANY IDEAS, BRIGHT BOY?
I KNOW! WE'LL WORK HIM LIKE A PUPPET!
I GET IT... THEN ROBOTNIK WILL SPILL HIS PLAN!
HELLO?
AH! THERE YOU ARE! HAVE YOU LOCATED THE OTHER HALF OF THE EMERALD?
NOD HIS HEAD!
EXCELLENT!
BRING ME BOTH PIECES ALONG WITH SONIC'S HEAD A.S.A.P.! ROBOTNIK OUT!
LOOK! HE DID HAVE HALF THE EMERALD IN HIS BACKPACK!
AND THE OTHER HALF'S ON ITS WAY TO JOIN WITH THE FLOATING ISLAND'S GEM AND BLOW US SKY HIGH!
C'MON--THIS IS A SHORT CUT TO THE CENTRAL CHAMBER!
FLOP!

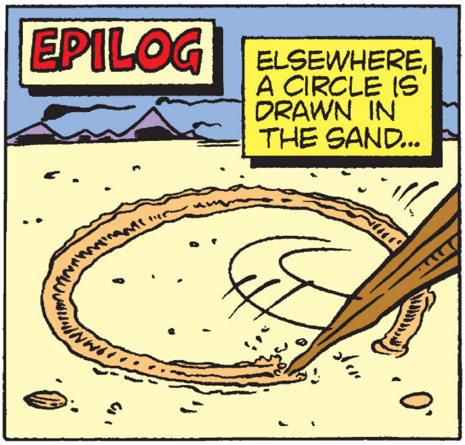

BOING!
HANG ON, KNUX! WE'LL GET THERE FASTER AT MAXI-SONIC SPEED!
HURRY! I CAN HEAR IT CRUNCHING THROUGH THE GROUND!
SNAP!
CRACKLE!
POP!

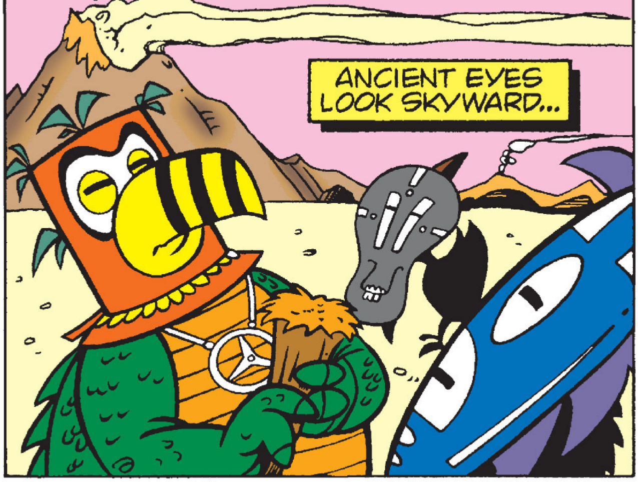

WE'RE JUST IN TIME! THE SHARD IS BREAKING INTO THE CHAMBER!
K-K-KRRR

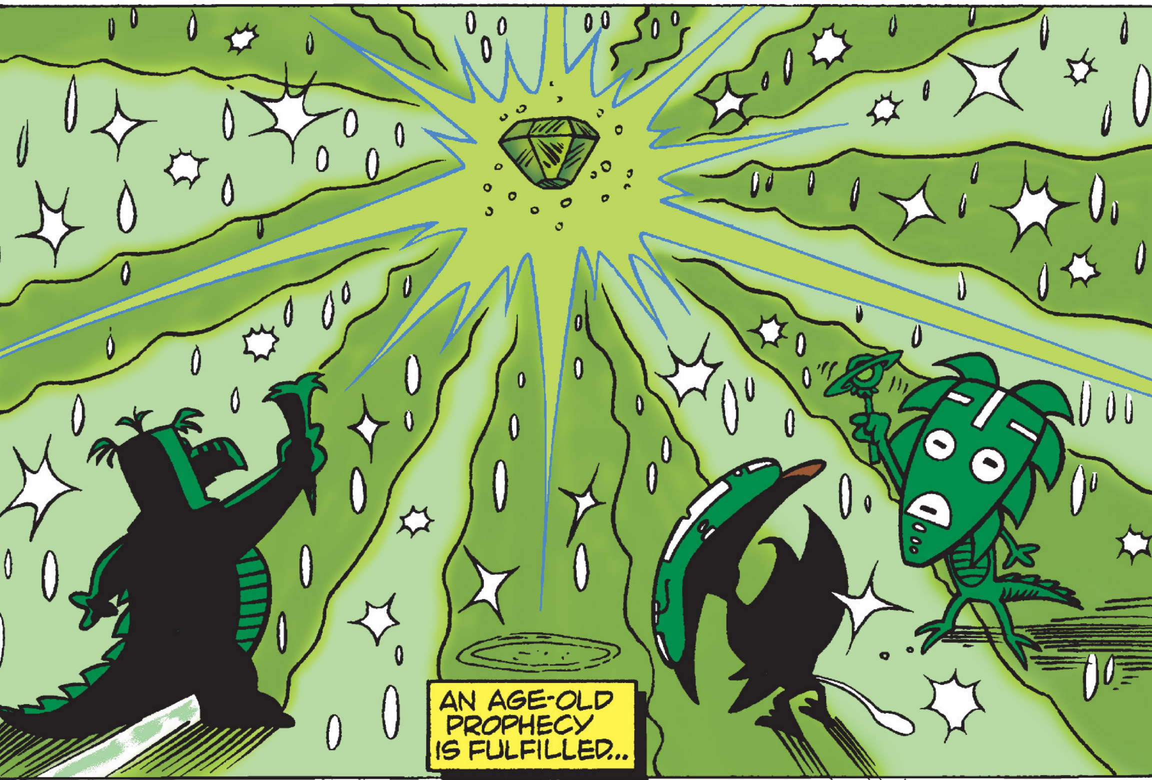

HERE IT COMES! HOLD UP THE OTHER PIECE!
OUR ONLY CHANCE IS IF THE TWO HALVES ARE MORE ATTRACTED TO EACH OTHER THAN THE UN-FAMILIAR WHOLE ONE!
PTOK!

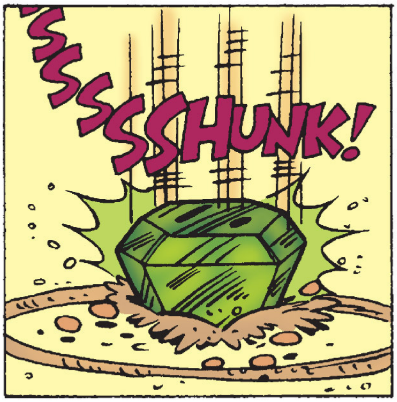

YES, THEY'RE REJOINING!
OW!
IT BURNS WITH GREEN FIRE!
HSSSSST!
MY EYES...
CAN'T SEE...

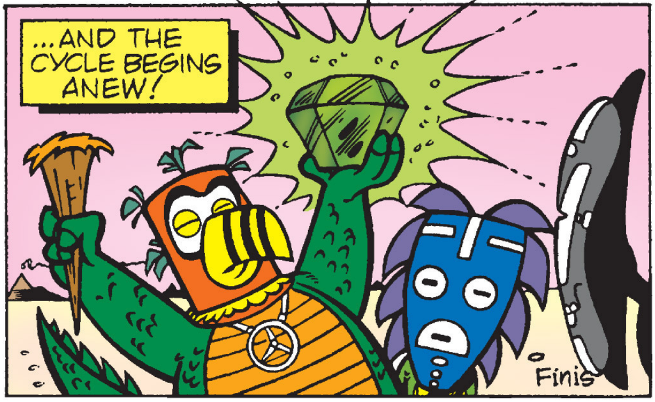

HUH? WE'RE BACK ON THE SURFACE--
--AND THE CHAOS EMERALD IS GONE!
SAY--HOW DID--
WHERE'D YOU PUT-
?
WHEN-
WHO-
?
HMMM...
WELL, I'M GOING HOME... ABOARD NACK THE WEASEL'S SKY CYCLE! I SAW A REMOTE SWITCH ON HIS WRIST RADIO...
AH.
N
N
SKLOOSH!
SORRY ABOUT OUR MISUNDERSTANDING!
NO SWEAT!
I STILL DON'T TRUST THAT ECHIDNA!
I'M KEEPING MY EYE ON THIS HEDGEHOG!
SEE YOU, TRUE BLUE!
SO LONG, RAD RED!
ZOOM!
I WONDER WHAT HE DID WITH THAT CHAOS EMERALD?
THE END?.. NOT QUITE...

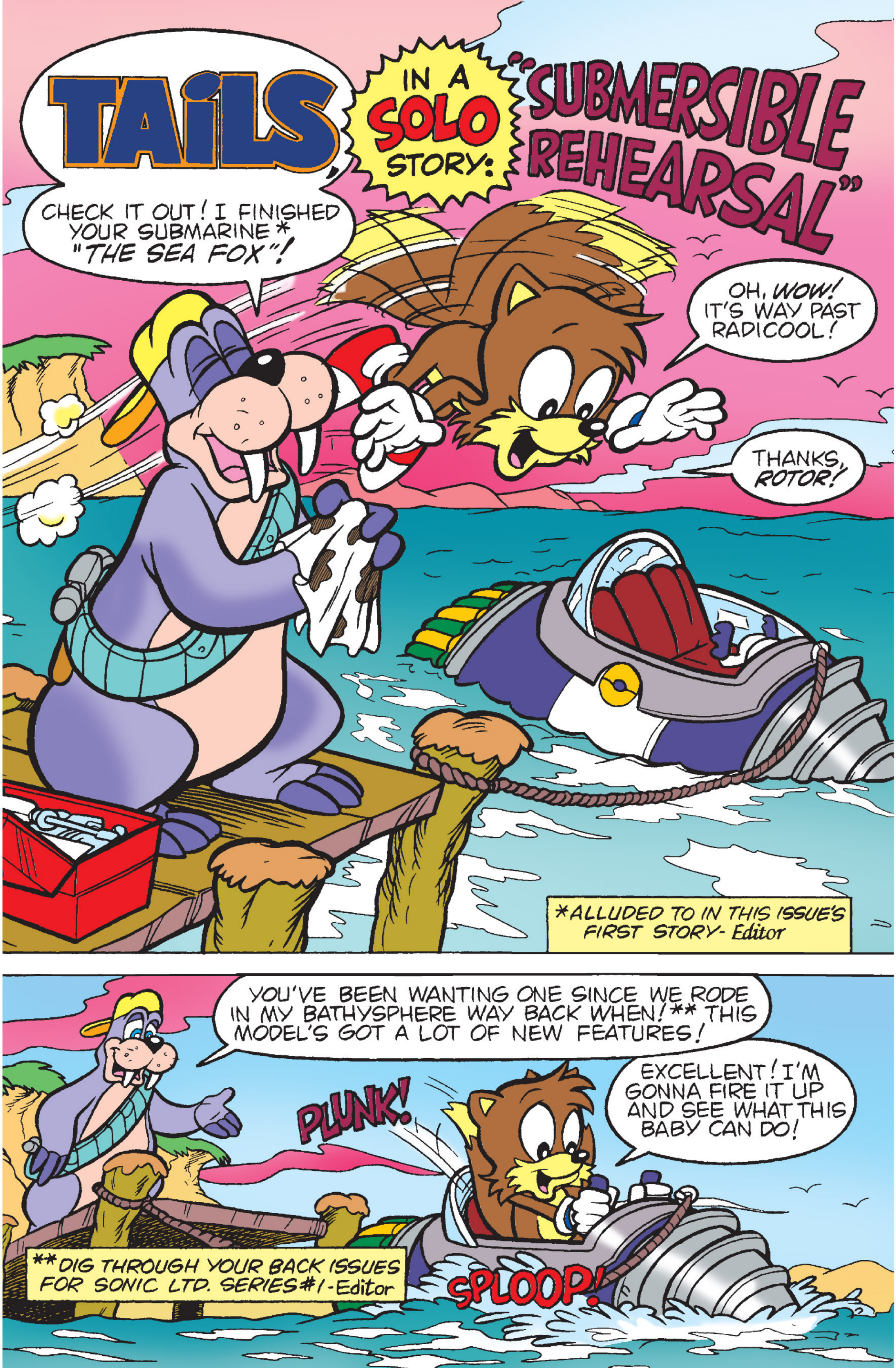

EPILOG
ELSEWHERE, A CIRCLE IS DRAWN IN THE SAND...

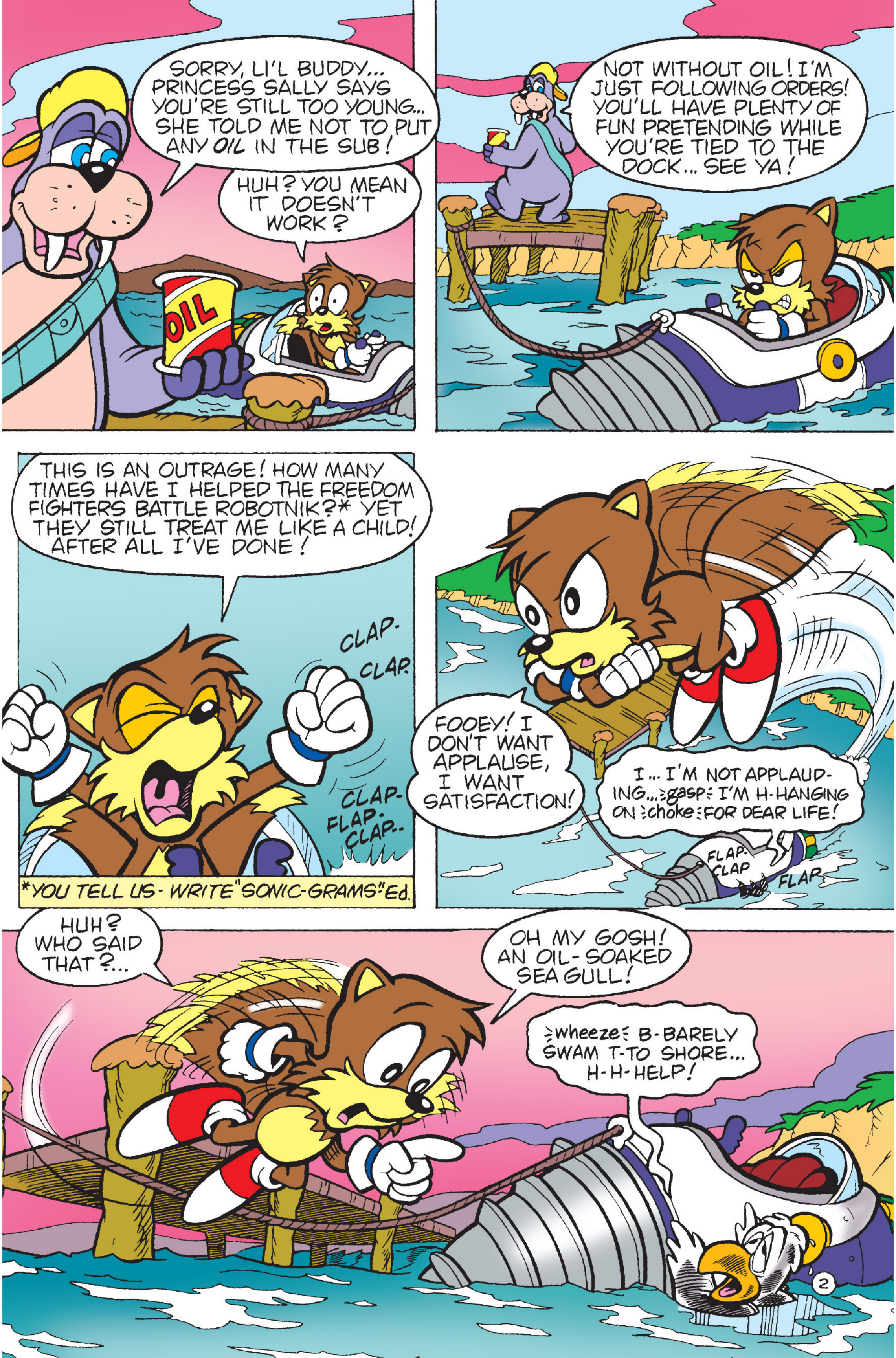

ANCIENT EYES LOOK SKYWARD...

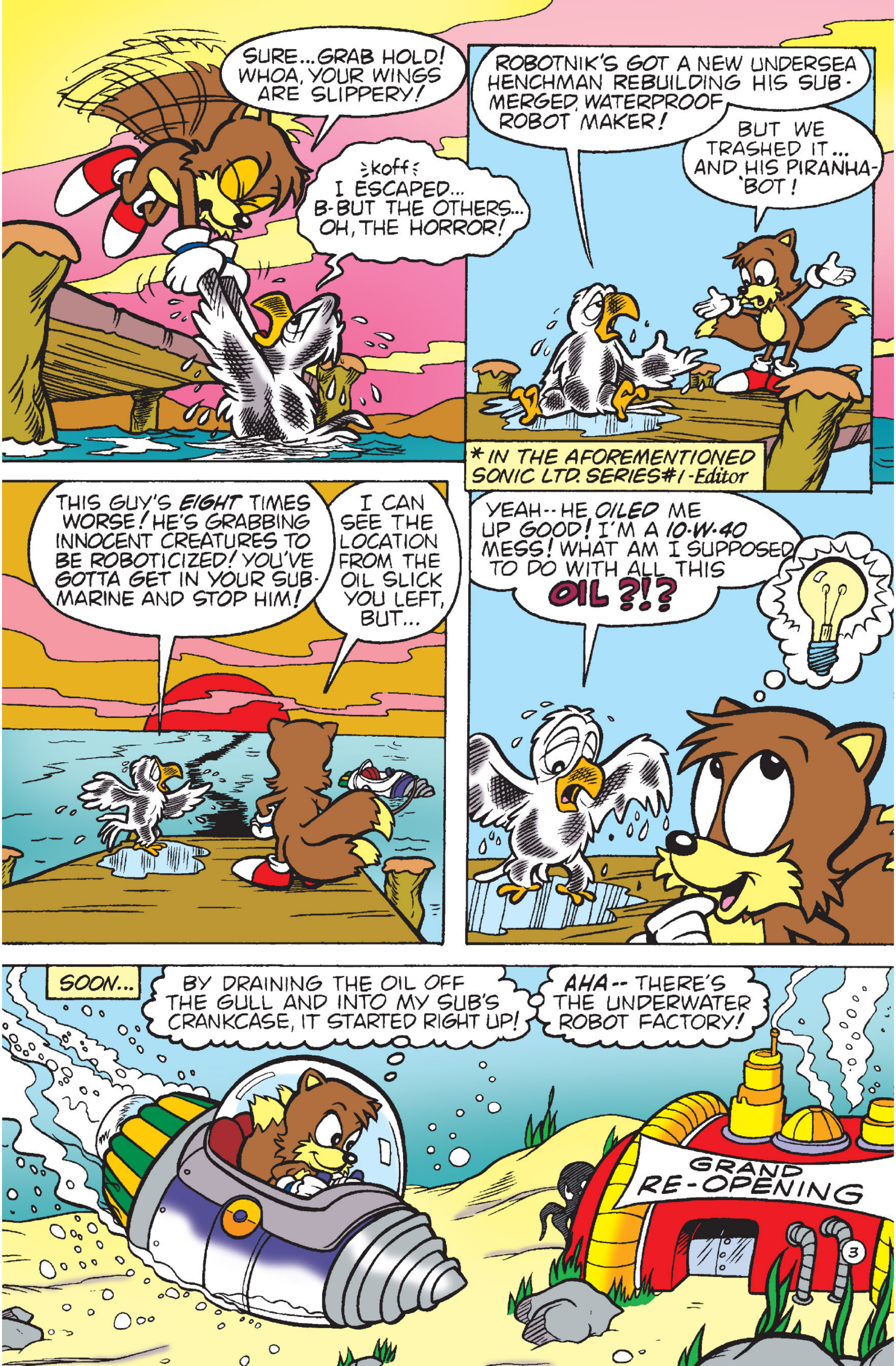

AN AGE-OLD PROPHECY IS FULFILLED...

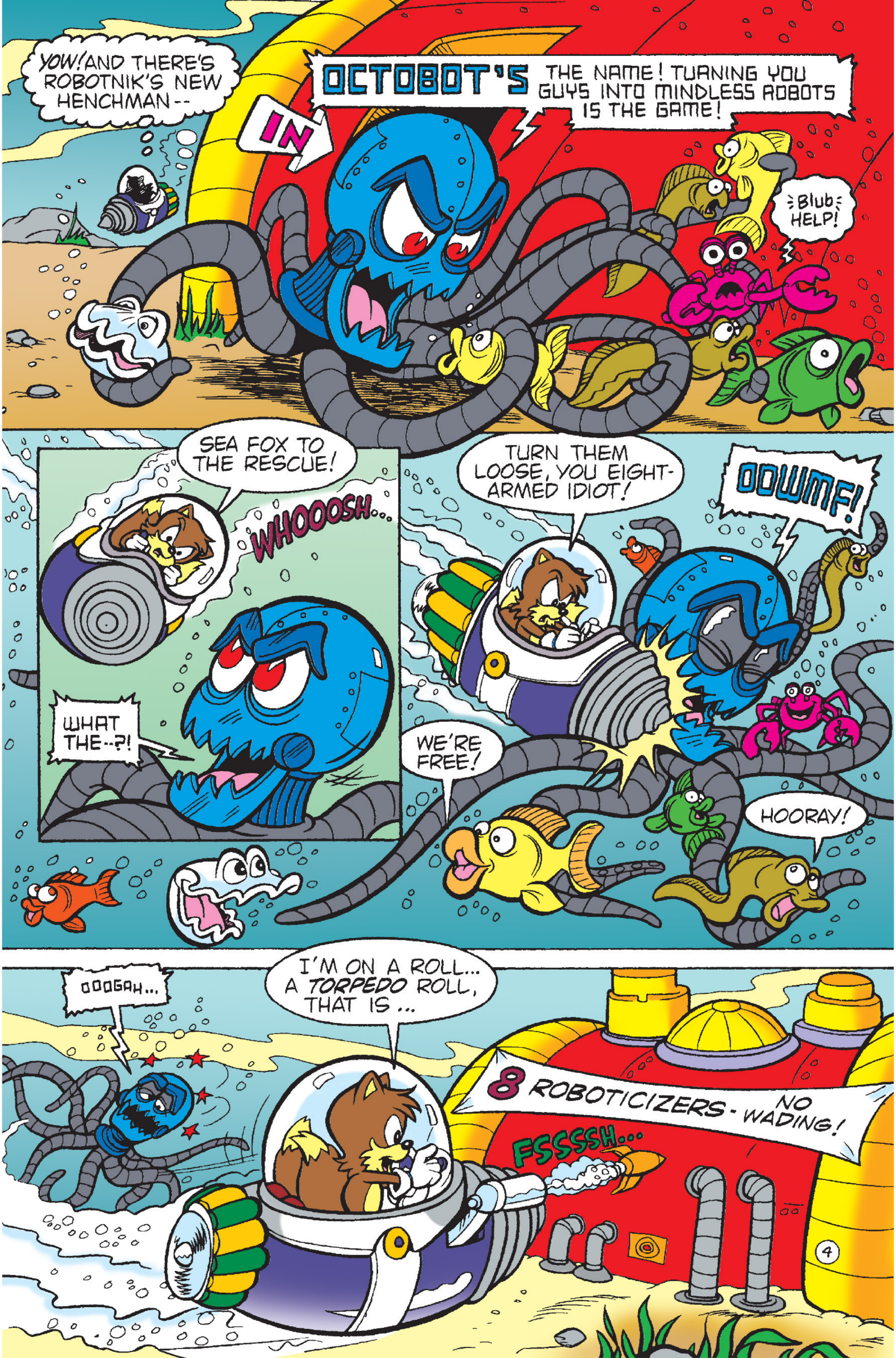

SSSSSHUNK!

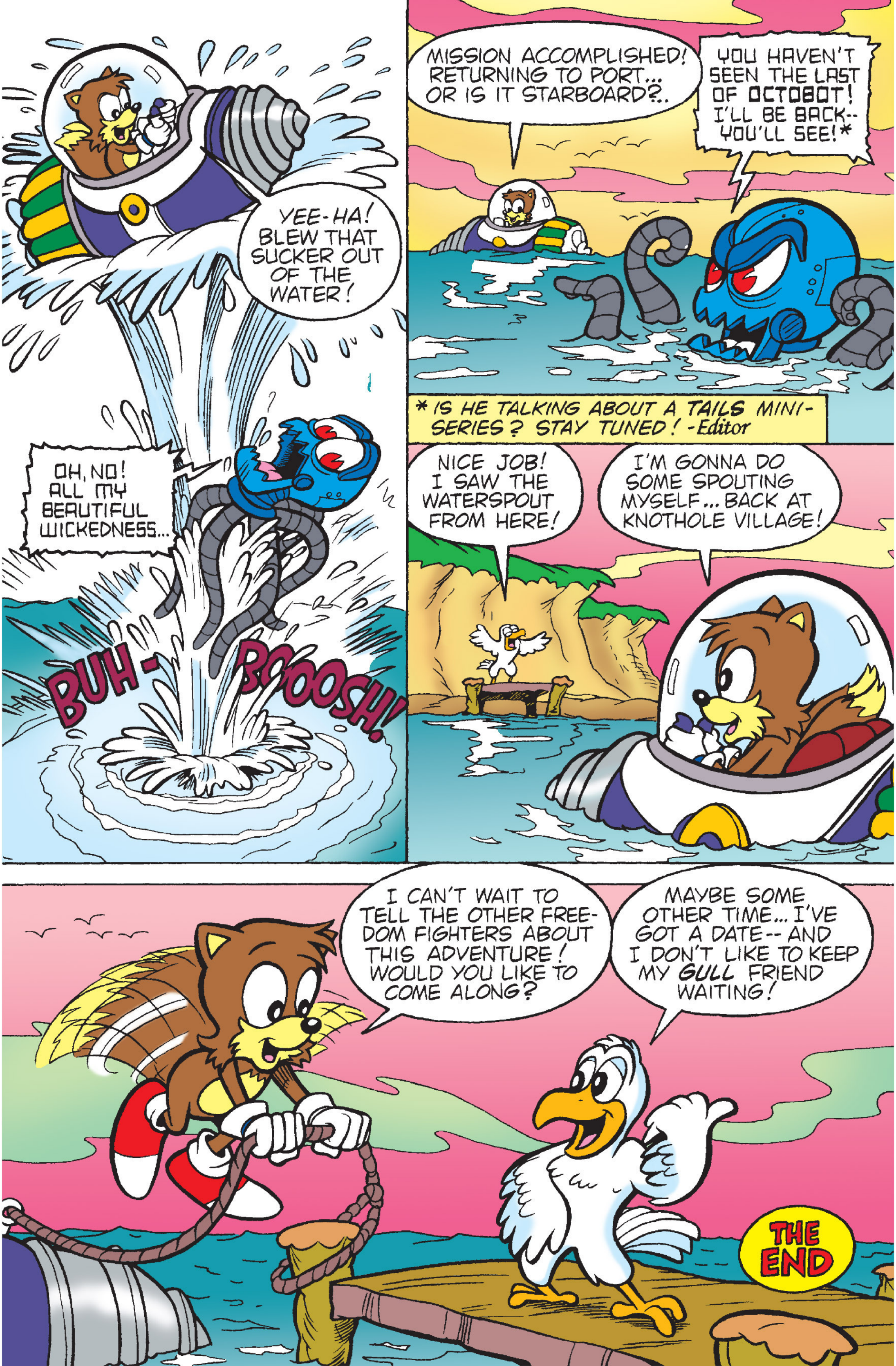

...AND THE CYCLE BEGINS ANEW!
Finis

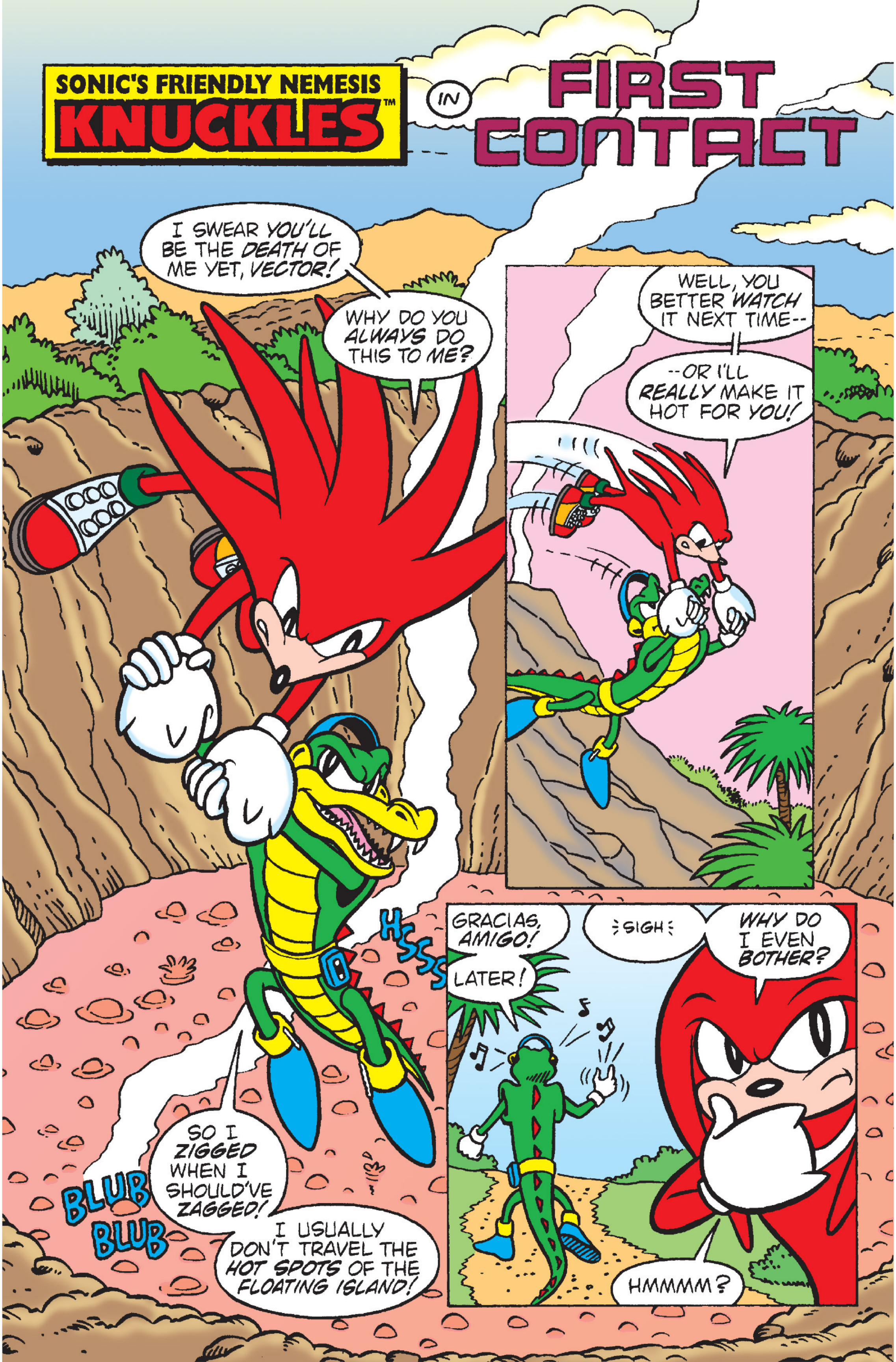

TAILS, IN A SOLO STORY: "SUBMERSIBLE REHEARSAL"
CHECK IT OUT! I FINISHED YOUR SUBMARINE* "THE SEA FOX"!
OH, WOW! IT'S WAY PAST RADICOOL!
THANKS, ROTOR!
*ALLUDED TO IN THIS ISSUE'S FIRST STORY- Editor
YOU'VE BEEN WANTING ONE SINCE WE RODE IN MY BATHYSPHERE WAY BACK WHEN!** THIS MODEL'S GOT A LOT OF NEW FEATURES!
PLUNK!
EXCELLENT! I'M GONNA FIRE IT UP AND SEE WHAT THIS BABY CAN DO!
**DIG THROUGH YOUR BACK ISSUES FOR SONIC LTD. SERIES #1 - Editor
SPLOOP!

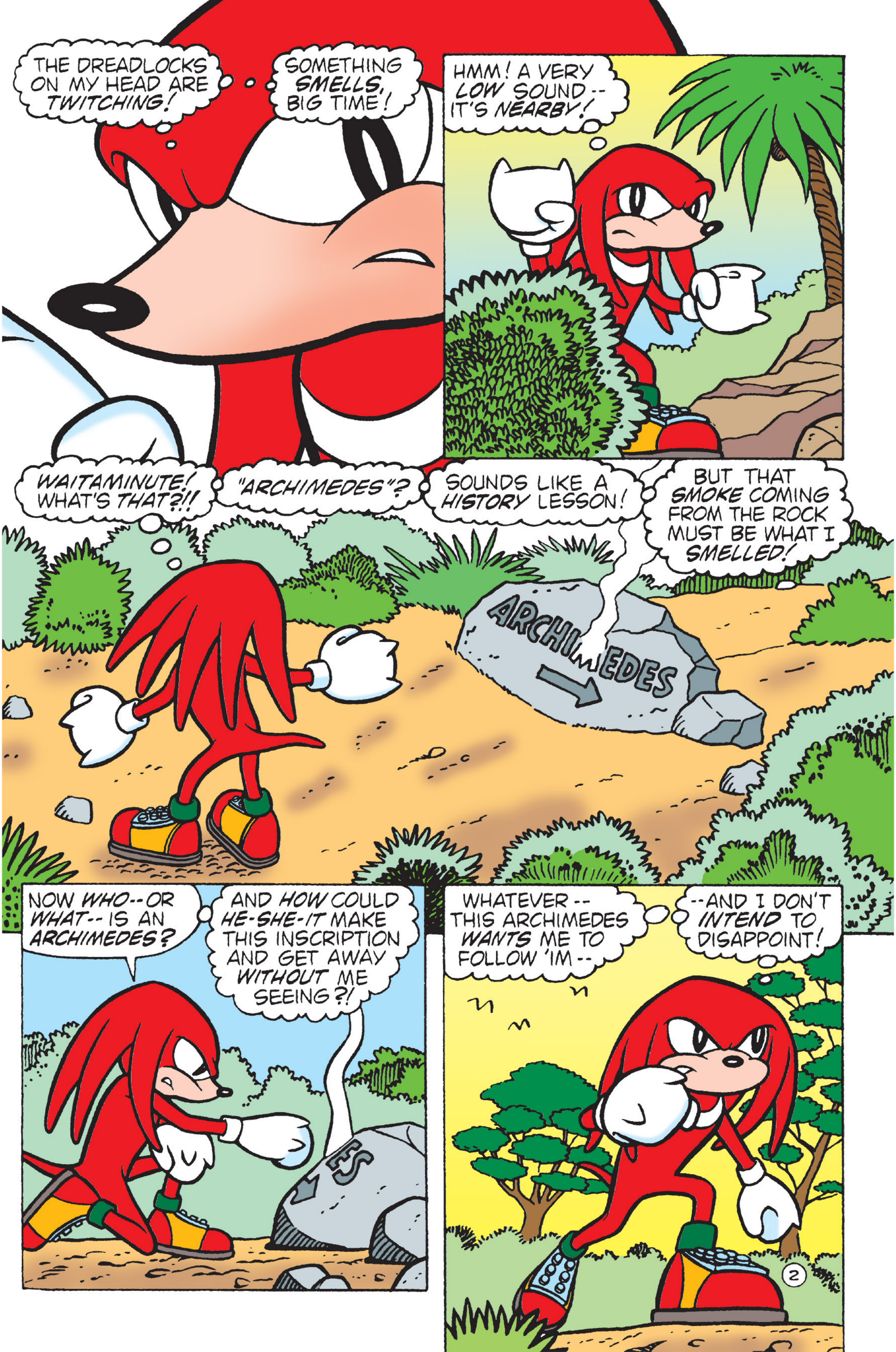

SORRY, LI'L BUDDY... PRINCESS SALLY SAYS YOU'RE STILL TOO YOUNG... SHE TOLD ME NOT TO PUT ANY *OIL* IN THE SUB!
HUH? YOU MEAN IT DOESN'T WORK?
OIL
NOT WITHOUT OIL! I'M JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS! YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF FUN PRETENDING WHILE YOU'RE TIED TO THE DOCK... SEE YA!
THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I HELPED THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS BATTLE ROBOTNIK?* YET THEY STILL TREAT ME LIKE A CHILD! AFTER ALL I'VE DONE!
CLAP. CLAP.
CLAP. FLAP. CLAP..
*YOU TELL US - WRITE "SONIC-GRAMS!" Ed.
FOOEY! I DON'T WANT APPLAUSE, I WANT SATISFACTION!
I... I'M NOT APPLAUDING... ⦂gasp⦂ I'M H-HANGING ON ⦂choke⦂ FOR DEAR LIFE!
FLAP. CLAP
FLAP
HUH? WHO SAID THAT?...
OH MY GOSH! AN OIL-SOAKED SEA GULL!
⦂wheeze⦂ B-BARELY SWAM T-TO SHORE... H-H-HELP!

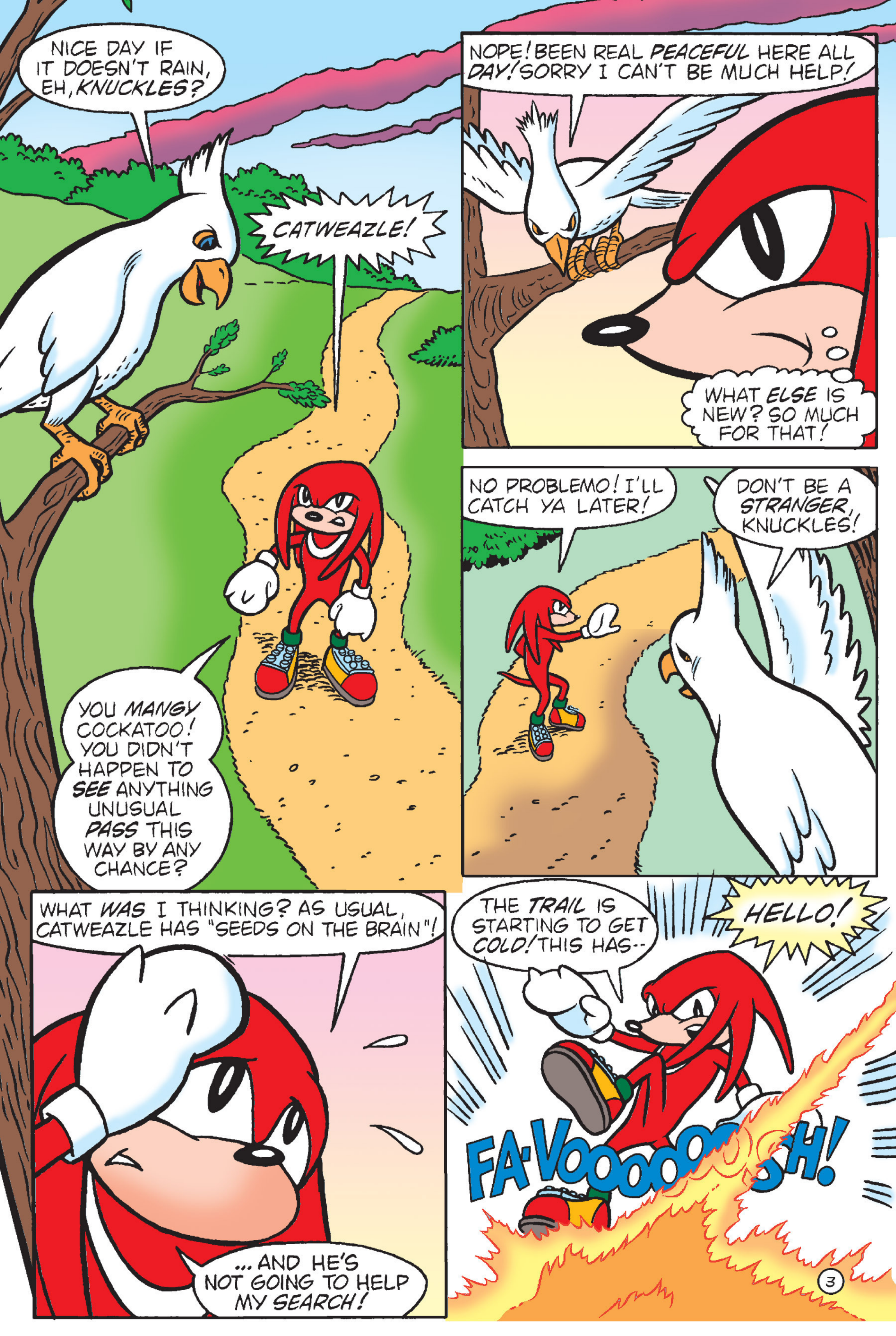

SURE...GRAB HOLD! WHOA, YOUR WINGS ARE SLIPPERY!
koff
I ESCAPED... B-BUT THE OTHERS... OH, THE HORROR!
ROBOTNIK'S GOT A NEW UNDERSEA HENCHMAN REBUILDING HIS SUBMERGED, WATERPROOF ROBOT MAKER!
BUT WE TRASHED IT... AND HIS PIRANHA-BOT!
* IN THE AFOREMENTIONED SONIC LTD. SERIES #1 -Editor
THIS GUY'S *EIGHT* TIMES WORSE! HE'S GRABBING INNOCENT CREATURES TO BE ROBOTICIZED! YOU'VE GOTTA GET IN YOUR SUBMARINE AND STOP HIM!
I CAN SEE THE LOCATION FROM THE OIL SLICK YOU LEFT, BUT...
YEAH--HE *OILED* ME UP *GOOD*! I'M A *10-W-40* MESS! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH ALL THIS **OIL ?!?**
SOON...
BY DRAINING THE OIL OFF THE GULL AND INTO MY SUB'S CRANKCASE, IT STARTED RIGHT UP!
AHA-- THERE'S THE UNDERWATER ROBOT FACTORY!
GRAND RE-OPENING

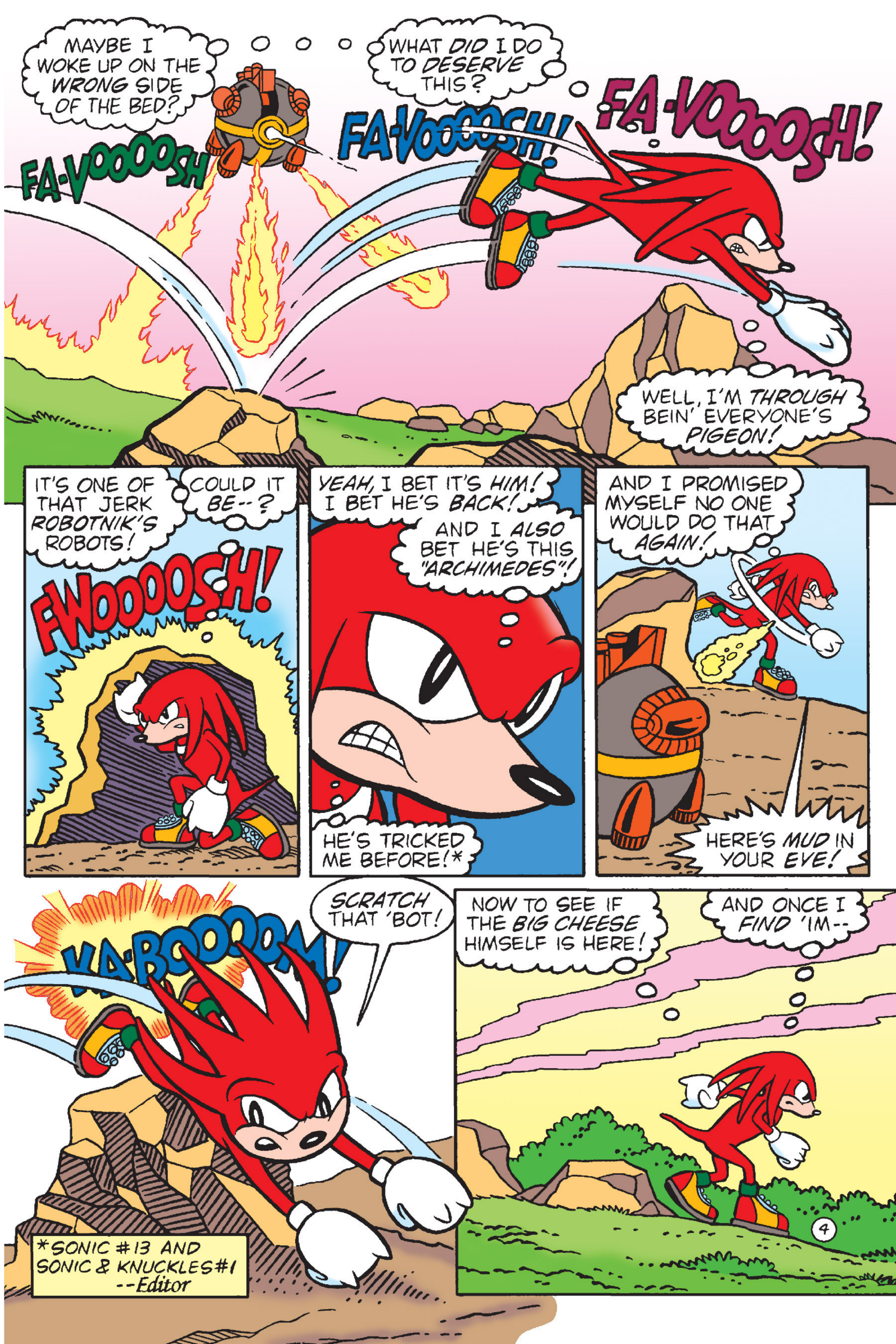

YOW! AND THERE'S ROBOTNIK'S NEW HENCHMAN --
IN
OCTOBOT'S THE NAME! TURNING YOU GUYS INTO MINDLESS ROBOTS IS THE GAME!
Blub HELP!
SEA FOX TO THE RESCUE!
WHOOOSH...
WHAT THE--?!
TURN THEM LOOSE, YOU EIGHT-ARMED IDIOT!
OOWMF!
WE'RE FREE!
HOORAY!
OOOGAH...
I'M ON A ROLL... A *TORPEDO* ROLL, THAT IS ...
8 ROBOTICIZERS - NO WADING!
FSSSSH...

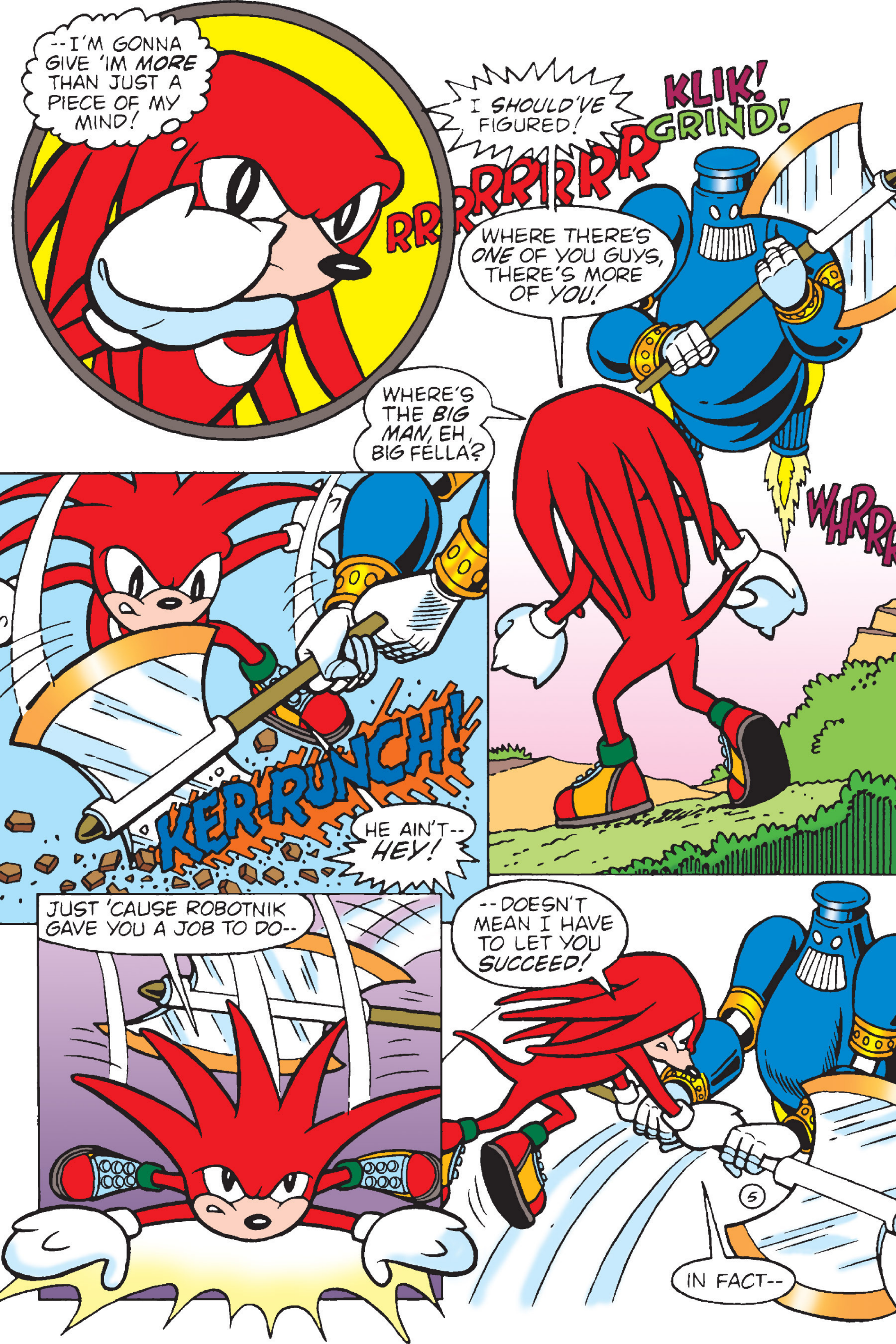

YEE-HA! BLEW THAT SUCKER OUT OF THE WATER!
OH, NO! ALL MY BEAUTIFUL WICKEDNESS...
BUH-BOOOSH!
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! RETURNING TO PORT... OR IS IT STARBOARD?..
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF OCTOBOT! I'LL BE BACK-- YOU'LL SEE!*
* IS HE TALKING ABOUT A TAILS MINI-SERIES? STAY TUNED! -Editor
NICE JOB! I SAW THE WATERSPOUT FROM HERE!
I'M GONNA DO SOME SPOUTING MYSELF... BACK AT KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!
I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL THE OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS ABOUT THIS ADVENTURE! WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME ALONG?
MAYBE SOME OTHER TIME... I'VE GOT A DATE-- AND I DON'T LIKE TO KEEP MY GULL FRIEND WAITING!
THE END

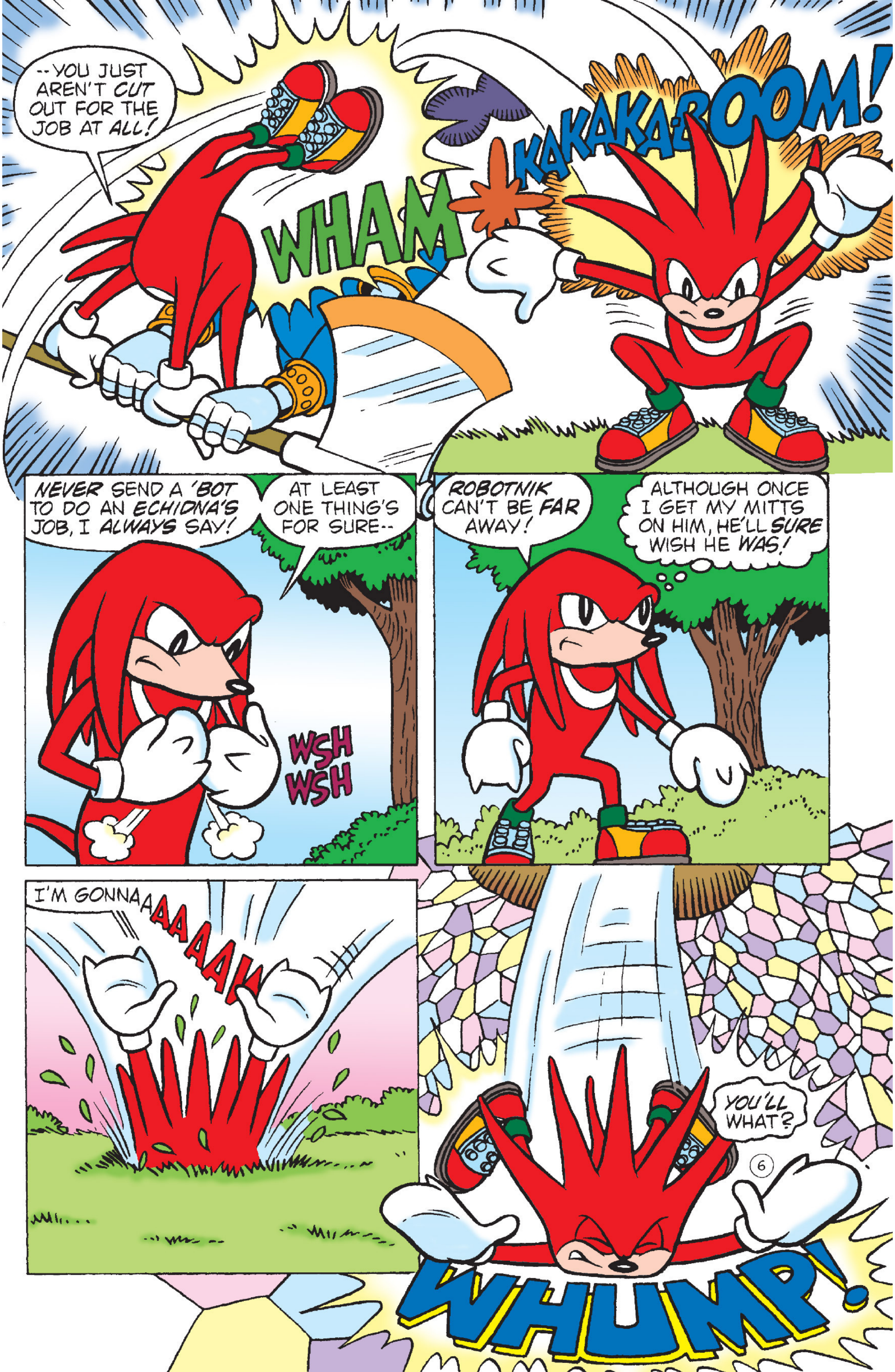

SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS
KNUCKLES™
IN
FIRST CONTACT
I SWEAR *YOU'LL* BE THE *DEATH* OF ME YET, *VECTOR!*
WHY DO YOU *ALWAYS* DO THIS TO *ME?*
HSSSS
SO I *ZIGGED* WHEN I SHOULD'VE *ZAGGED!*
BLUB BLUB
I USUALLY DON'T TRAVEL THE *HOT SPOTS* OF THE *FLOATING ISLAND!*
WELL, YOU BETTER *WATCH* IT NEXT TIME--
--OR I'LL *REALLY* MAKE IT HOT FOR *YOU!*
GRACIAS, *AMIGO!*
LATER!
SIGH
WHY DO I EVEN *BOTHER?*
HMMMM?

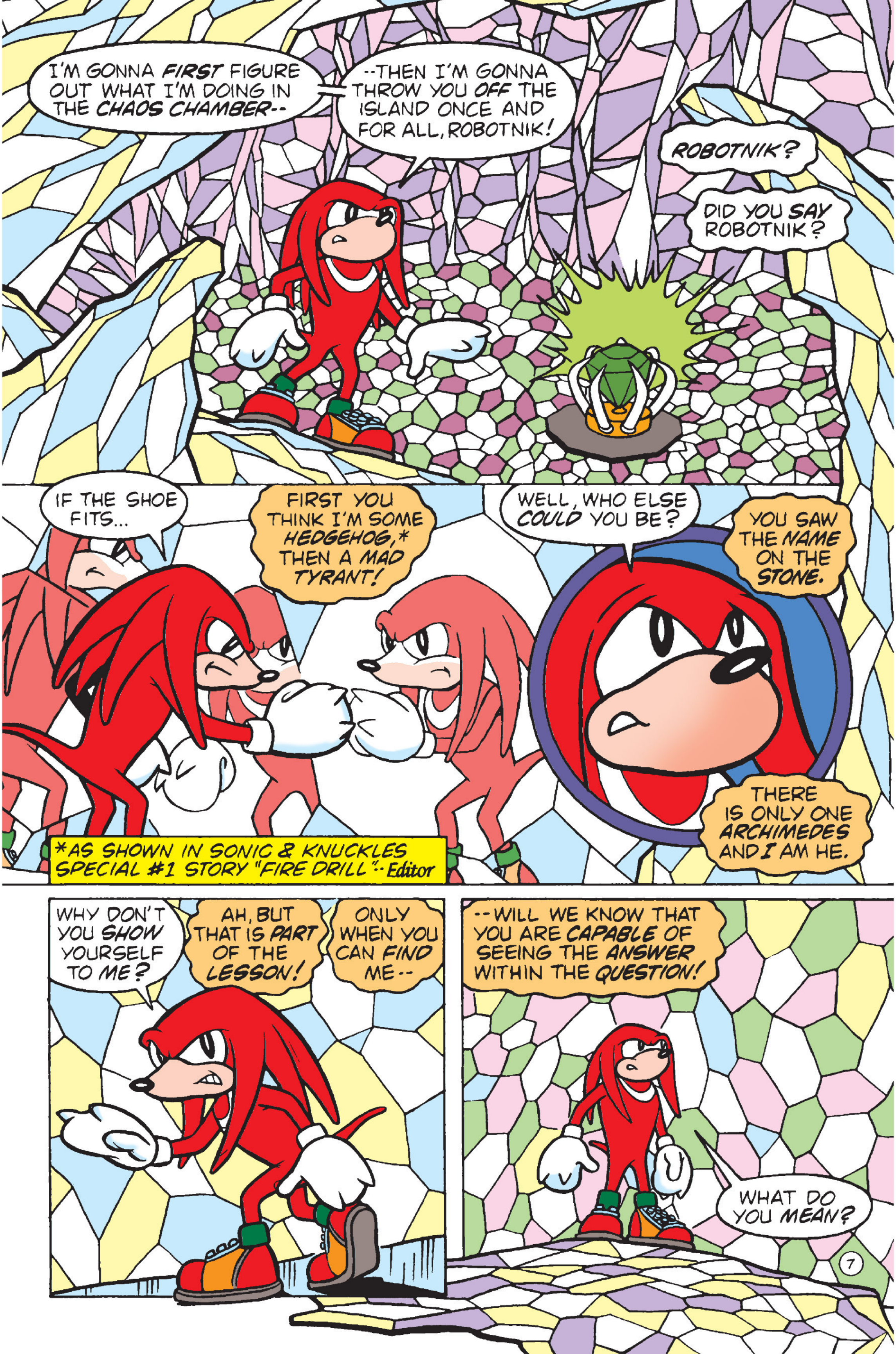

THE DREADLOCKS ON MY HEAD ARE TWITCHING!
SOMETHING SMELLS, BIG TIME!
HMM! A VERY LOW SOUND -- IT'S NEARBY!
WAITAMINUTE! WHAT'S THAT?!!
"ARCHIMEDES"?
SOUNDS LIKE A HISTORY LESSON!
BUT THAT SMOKE COMING FROM THE ROCK MUST BE WHAT I SMELLED!
ARCHIMEDES
NOW WHO--OR WHAT-- IS AN ARCHIMEDES?
AND HOW COULD HE-SHE-IT MAKE THIS INSCRIPTION AND GET AWAY WITHOUT ME SEEING?!
ES
WHATEVER -- THIS ARCHIMEDES WANTS ME TO FOLLOW 'IM --
--AND I DON'T INTEND TO DISAPPOINT!

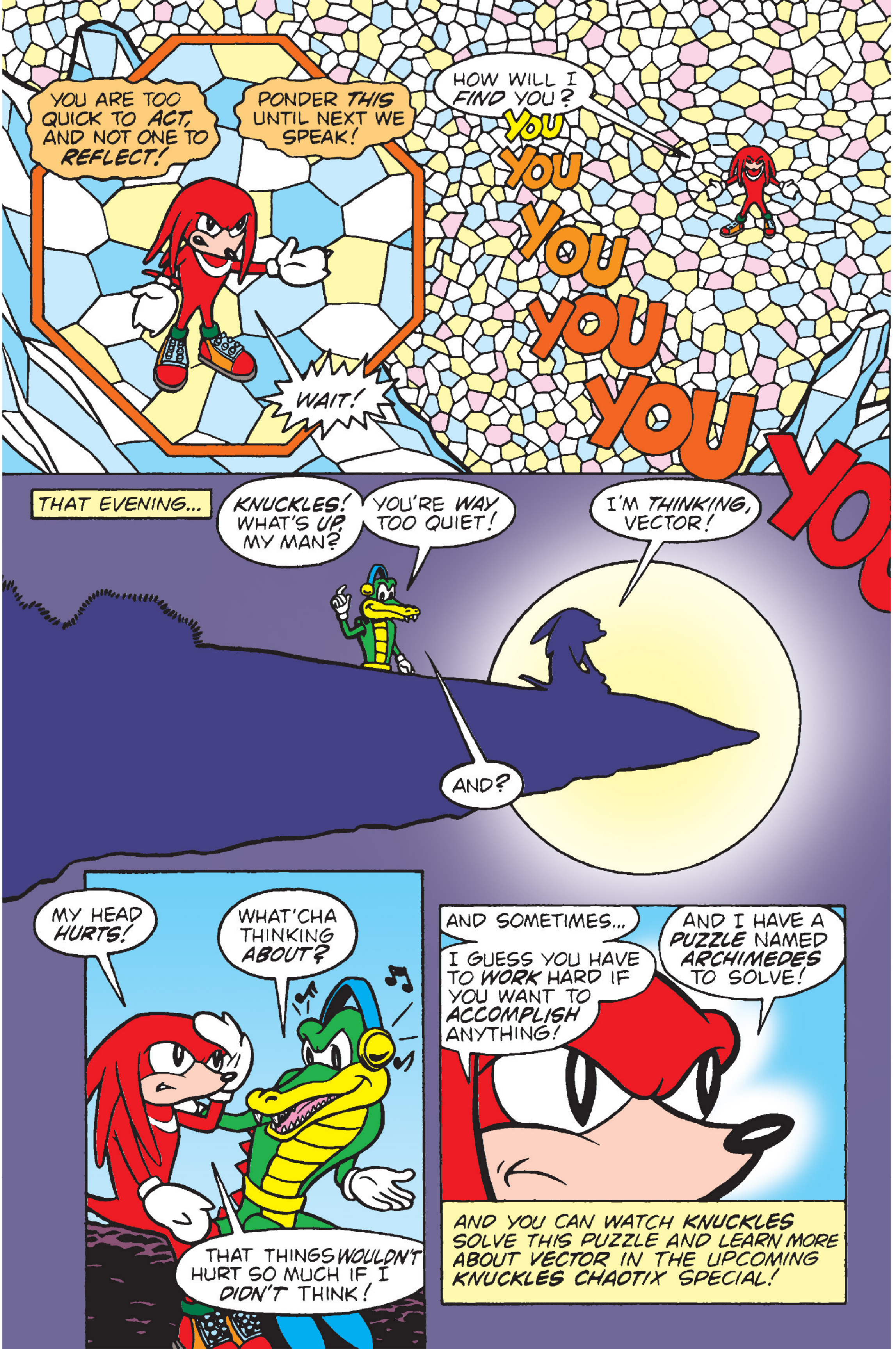

NICE DAY IF IT DOESN'T RAIN, EH, *KNUCKLES*?
CATWEAZLE!
YOU *MANGY* COCKATOO! YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO *SEE* ANYTHING UNUSUAL *PASS* THIS WAY BY ANY CHANCE?
NOPE! BEEN REAL *PEACEFUL* HERE ALL *DAY!* SORRY I CAN'T BE MUCH HELP!
WHAT *ELSE* IS NEW? SO MUCH FOR THAT!
NO PROBLEMO! I'LL CATCH YA LATER!
DON'T BE A *STRANGER*, KNUCKLES!
WHAT *WAS* I THINKING? AS USUAL, CATWEAZLE HAS "SEEDS ON THE BRAIN"!
...AND HE'S NOT GOING TO HELP MY *SEARCH!*
THE *TRAIL* IS STARTING TO GET *COLD!* THIS HAS--
HELLO!
FA-VOOOOOOOSH!


MAYBE I WOKE UP ON THE *WRONG* SIDE OF THE BED?
FA-VOOOOOSH
WHAT *DID* I DO TO *DESERVE* THIS?
FA-VOOOOSH!
FA-VOOOOOSH!
WELL, I'M *THROUGH* BEIN' EVERYONE'S *PIGEON!*
IT'S ONE OF THAT JERK *ROBOTNIK'S* ROBOTS!
COULD IT *BE*--?
FWOOOOSH!
YEAH, I BET IT'S *HIM!* I BET HE'S *BACK!*
AND I *ALSO* BET HE'S THIS *"ARCHIMEDES"!*
HE'S TRICKED ME BEFORE!*
AND I PROMISED MYSELF NO ONE WOULD DO THAT *AGAIN!*
HERE'S *MUD* IN YOUR *EYE!*
KA-BOOOOM!
SCRATCH THAT 'BOT!
*SONIC #13 AND SONIC & KNUCKLES #1 --Editor
NOW TO SEE IF THE *BIG CHEESE* HIMSELF IS HERE!
AND ONCE I *FIND* 'IM--

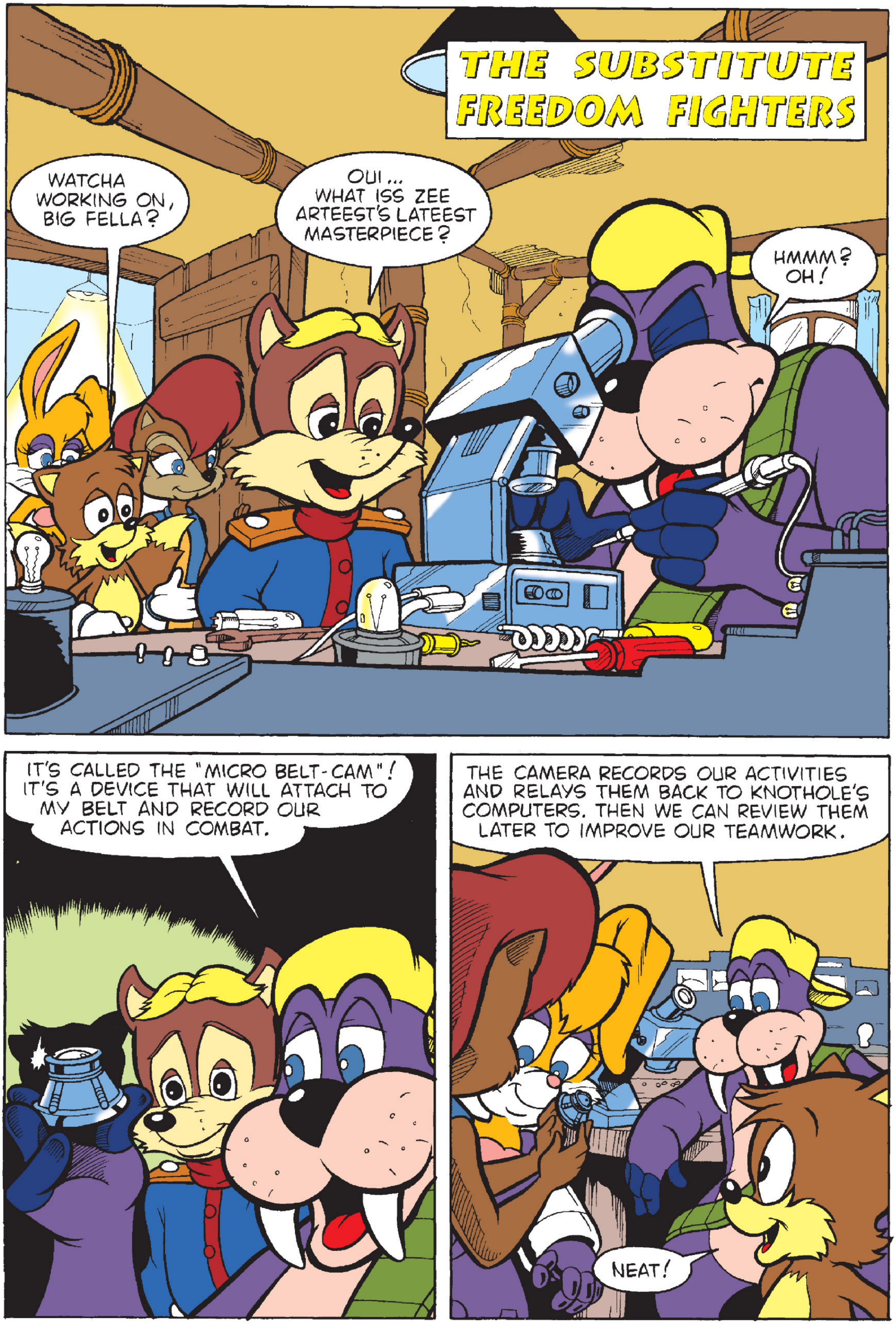

--I'M GONNA GIVE 'IM MORE THAN JUST A PIECE OF MY MIND!
I SHOULD'VE FIGURED!
KLIK!
GRIND!
RRRRRRRRRR
WHERE THERE'S ONE OF YOU GUYS, THERE'S MORE OF YOU!
WHERE'S THE BIG MAN, EH, BIG FELLA?
WHRRR
KER-RUNCH!
HE AIN'T-- HEY!
JUST 'CAUSE ROBOTNIK GAVE YOU A JOB TO DO--
--DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE TO LET YOU SUCCEED!
IN FACT--

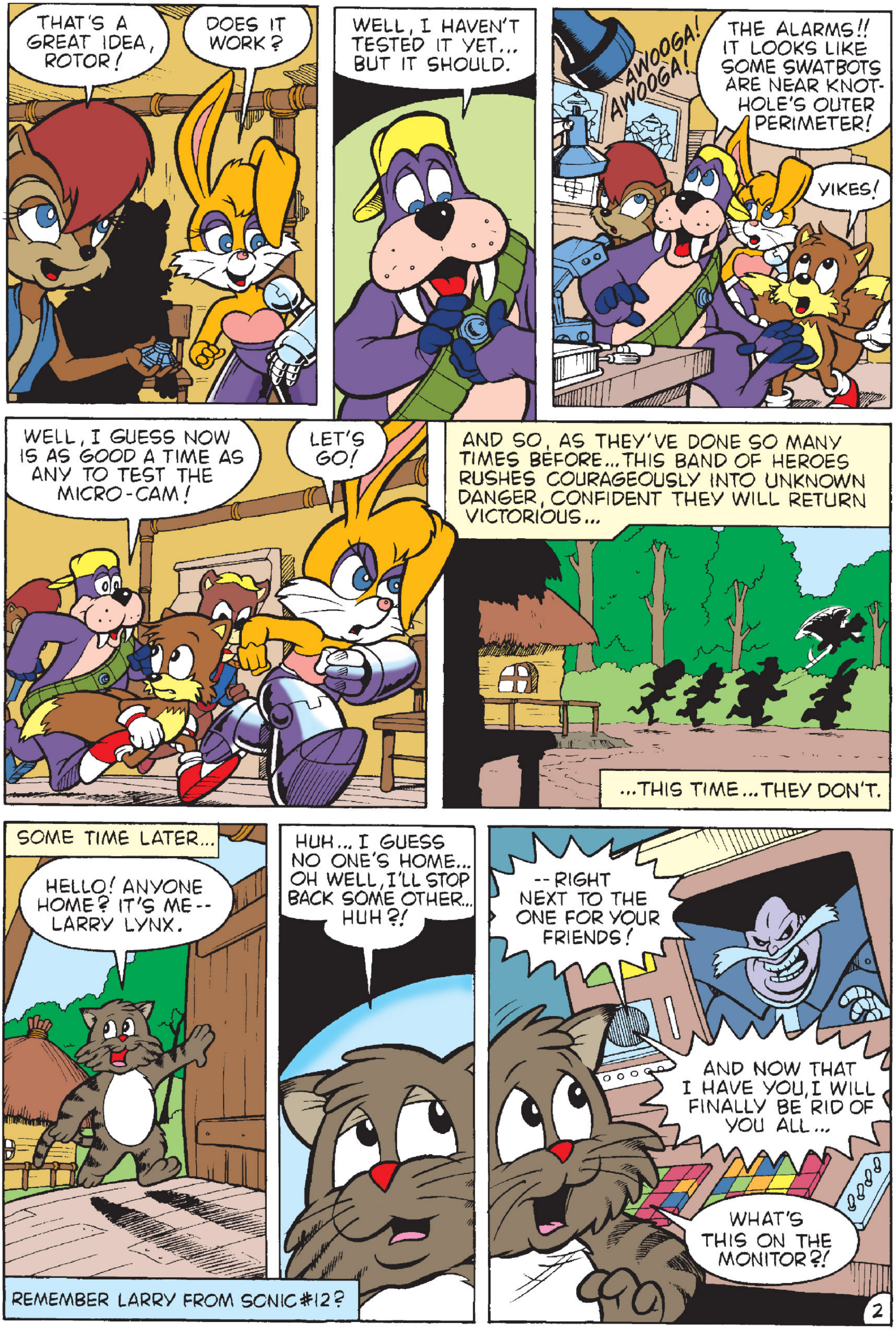

--YOU JUST AREN'T CUT OUT FOR THE JOB AT ALL!
WHAM
KAKAKA-BOOM!
NEVER SEND A 'BOT TO DO AN ECHIDNA'S JOB, I ALWAYS SAY!
AT LEAST ONE THING'S FOR SURE--
WSH WSH
ROBOTNIK CAN'T BE FAR AWAY!
ALTHOUGH ONCE I GET MY MITTS ON HIM, HE'LL SURE WISH HE WAS!
I'M GONNAAAAAAA
YOU'LL WHAT?
WHUMP!

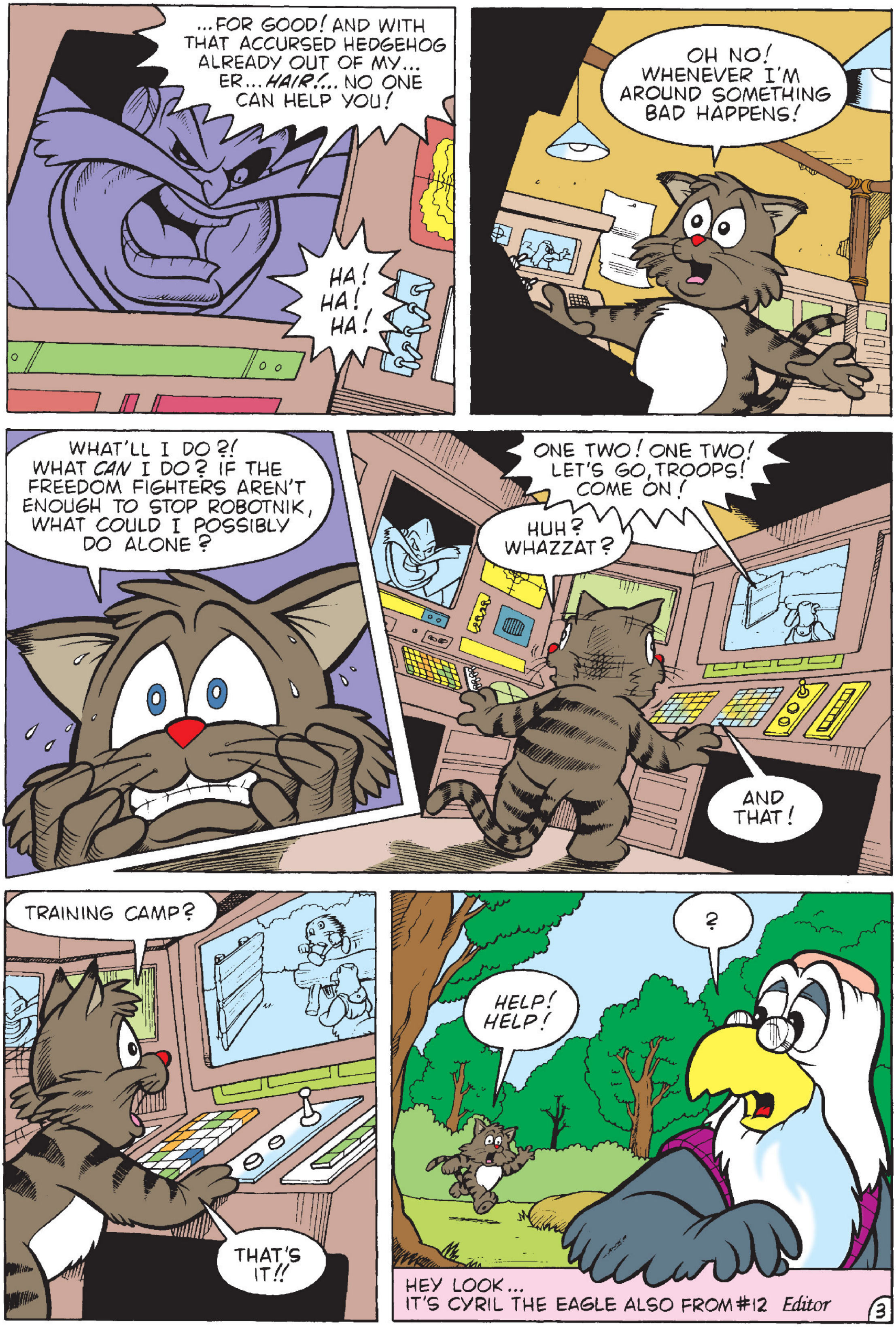

I'M GONNA *FIRST* FIGURE OUT WHAT I'M DOING IN THE *CHAOS CHAMBER*--
--THEN I'M GONNA THROW YOU *OFF* THE ISLAND ONCE AND FOR ALL, ROBOTNIK!
ROBOTNIK?
DID YOU *SAY* ROBOTNIK?
IF THE SHOE FITS...
FIRST YOU THINK I'M SOME *HEDGEHOG,** THEN A *MAD TYRANT!*
WELL, WHO ELSE *COULD* YOU BE?
YOU SAW THE *NAME* ON THE *STONE.*
THERE IS ONLY ONE *ARCHIMEDES* AND *I* AM HE.
*AS SHOWN IN SONIC & KNUCKLES SPECIAL #1 STORY "FIRE DRILL".--Editor
WHY DON'T YOU *SHOW* YOURSELF TO *ME?*
AH, BUT THAT IS *PART* OF THE *LESSON!*
ONLY WHEN YOU CAN *FIND* ME--
--WILL WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE *CAPABLE* OF SEEING THE *ANSWER* WITHIN THE *QUESTION!*
WHAT DO YOU *MEAN?*

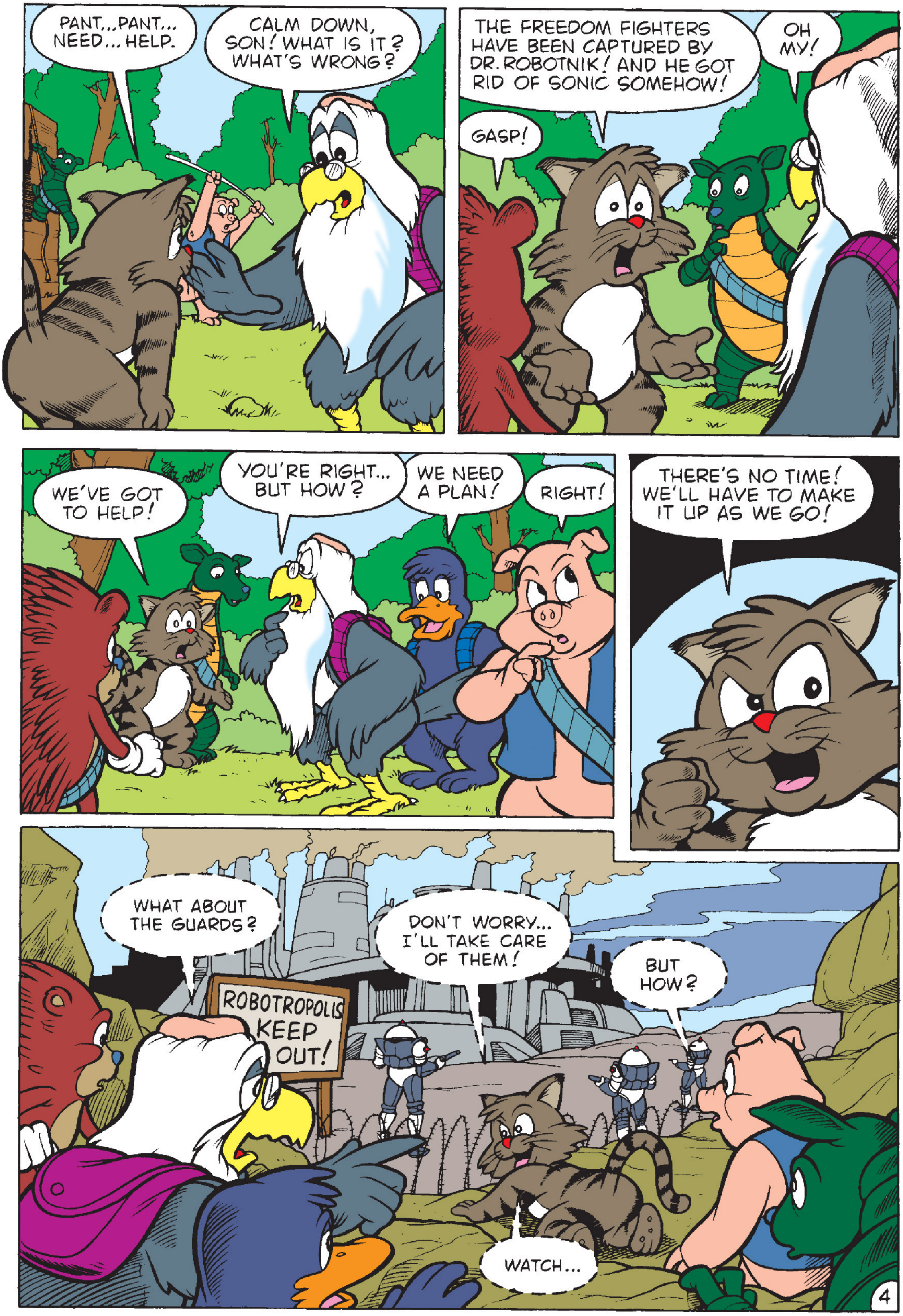

YOU ARE TOO QUICK TO *ACT*, AND NOT ONE TO *REFLECT!*
PONDER *THIS* UNTIL NEXT WE SPEAK!
WAIT!
HOW WILL I *FIND* YOU?
YOU
YOU
YOU
YOU
YOU
YOU
YOU
THAT EVENING...
KNUCKLES! WHAT'S *UP*, MY MAN?
YOU'RE *WAY* TOO QUIET!
I'M *THINKING*, VECTOR!
AND?
MY HEAD *HURTS!*
WHAT'CHA THINKING *ABOUT?*
THAT THINGS *WOULDN'T* HURT SO MUCH IF I *DIDN'T* THINK!
AND SOMETIMES...
I GUESS YOU HAVE TO *WORK* HARD IF YOU WANT TO *ACCOMPLISH* ANYTHING!
AND I HAVE A *PUZZLE* NAMED *ARCHIMEDES* TO SOLVE!
AND YOU CAN WATCH **KNUCKLES** SOLVE THIS PUZZLE AND LEARN MORE ABOUT **VECTOR** IN THE UPCOMING **KNUCKLES CHAOTIX** SPECIAL!

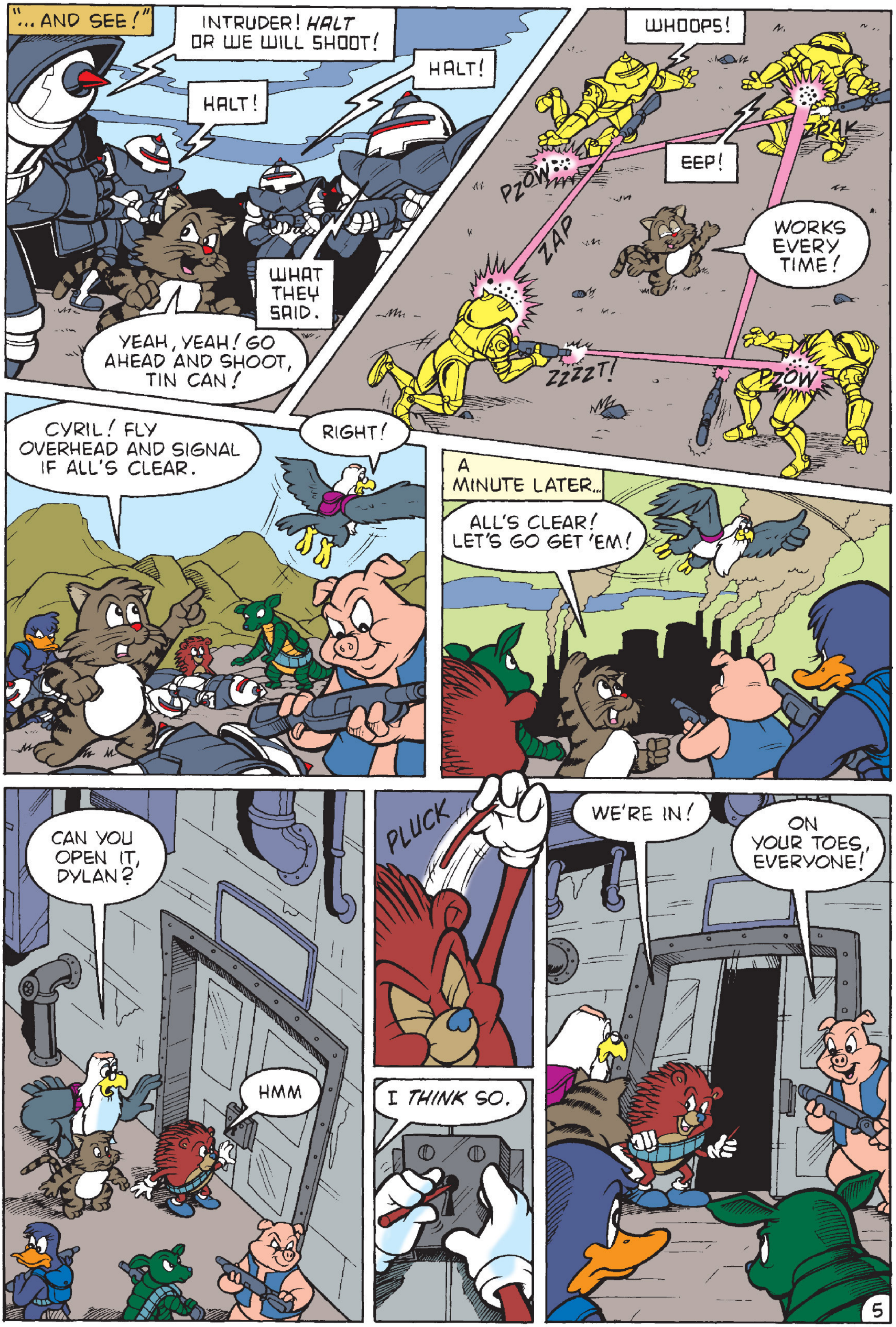
THE SUBSTITUTE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

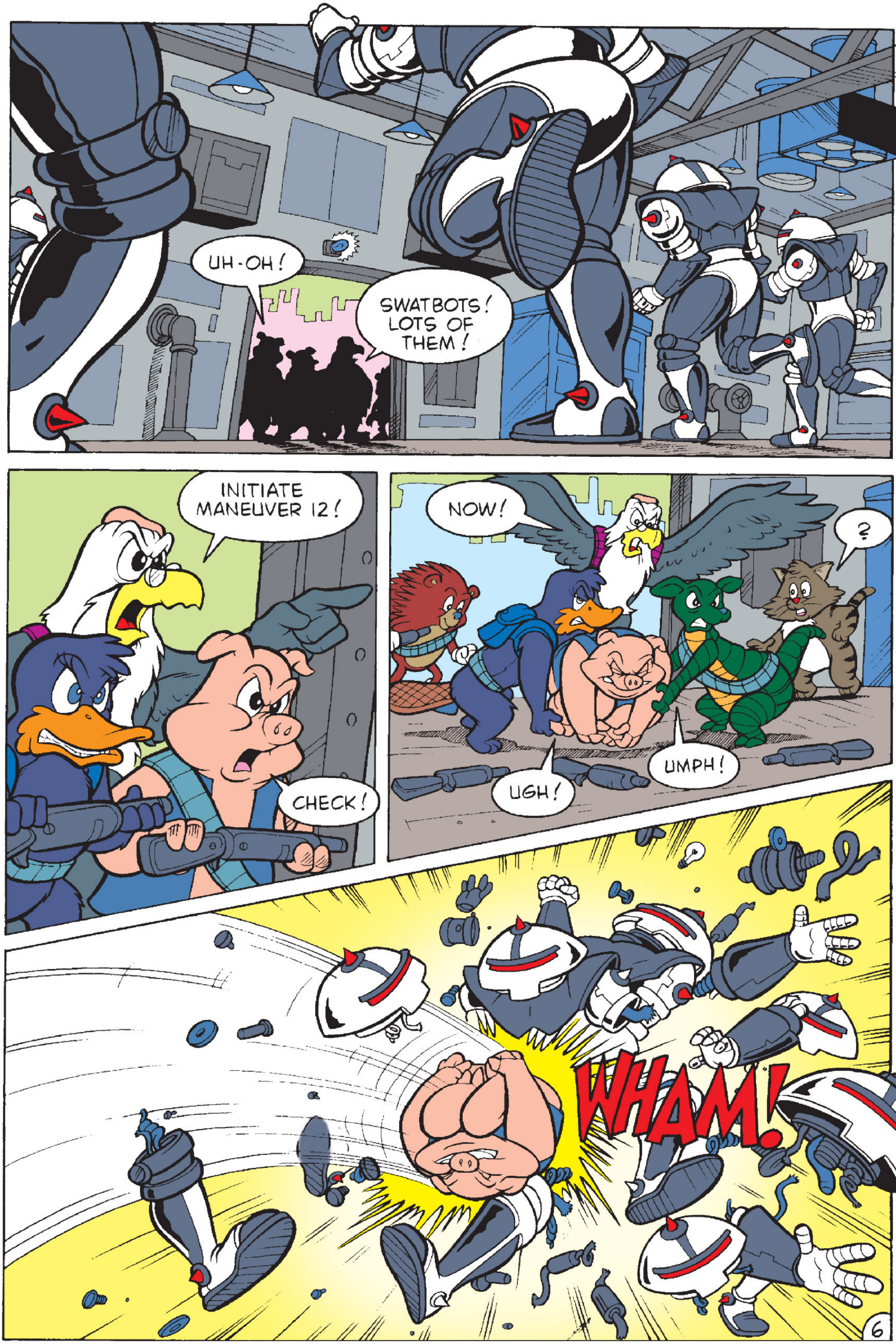

WATCHA WORKING ON, BIG FELLA?
OUI... WHAT ISS ZEE ARTEEST'S LATEEST MASTERPIECE?
HMMM? OH!
IT'S CALLED THE "MICRO BELT-CAM"! IT'S A DEVICE THAT WILL ATTACH TO MY BELT AND RECORD OUR ACTIONS IN COMBAT.
THE CAMERA RECORDS OUR ACTIVITIES AND RELAYS THEM BACK TO KNOTHOLE'S COMPUTERS. THEN WE CAN REVIEW THEM LATER TO IMPROVE OUR TEAMWORK.
NEAT!

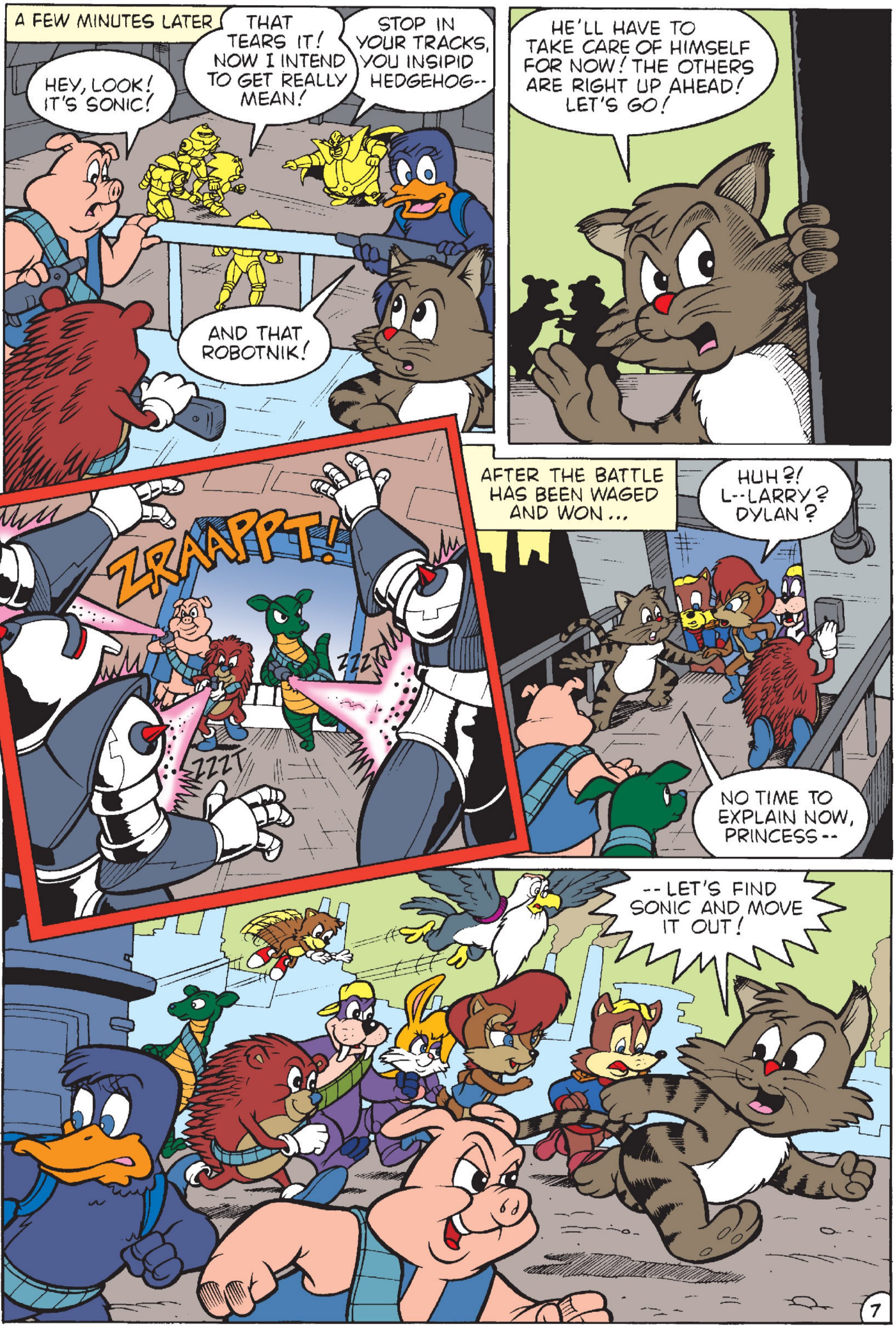

THAT'S A GREAT IDEA, ROTOR!
DOES IT WORK?
WELL, I HAVEN'T TESTED IT YET... BUT IT SHOULD.
AWOOGA! AWOOGA!
THE ALARMS!! IT LOOKS LIKE SOME SWATBOTS ARE NEAR KNOTHOLE'S OUTER PERIMETER!
YIKES!
WELL, I GUESS NOW IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY TO TEST THE MICRO-CAM!
LET'S GO!
AND SO, AS THEY'VE DONE SO MANY TIMES BEFORE... THIS BAND OF HEROES RUSHES COURAGEOUSLY INTO UNKNOWN DANGER, CONFIDENT THEY WILL RETURN VICTORIOUS...
...THIS TIME... THEY DON'T.
SOME TIME LATER...
HELLO! ANYONE HOME? IT'S ME-- LARRY LYNX.
REMEMBER LARRY FROM SONIC #12?
HUH... I GUESS NO ONE'S HOME... OH WELL, I'LL STOP BACK SOME OTHER... HUH?!
-- RIGHT NEXT TO THE ONE FOR YOUR FRIENDS!
AND NOW THAT I HAVE YOU, I WILL FINALLY BE RID OF YOU ALL...
WHAT'S THIS ON THE MONITOR?!

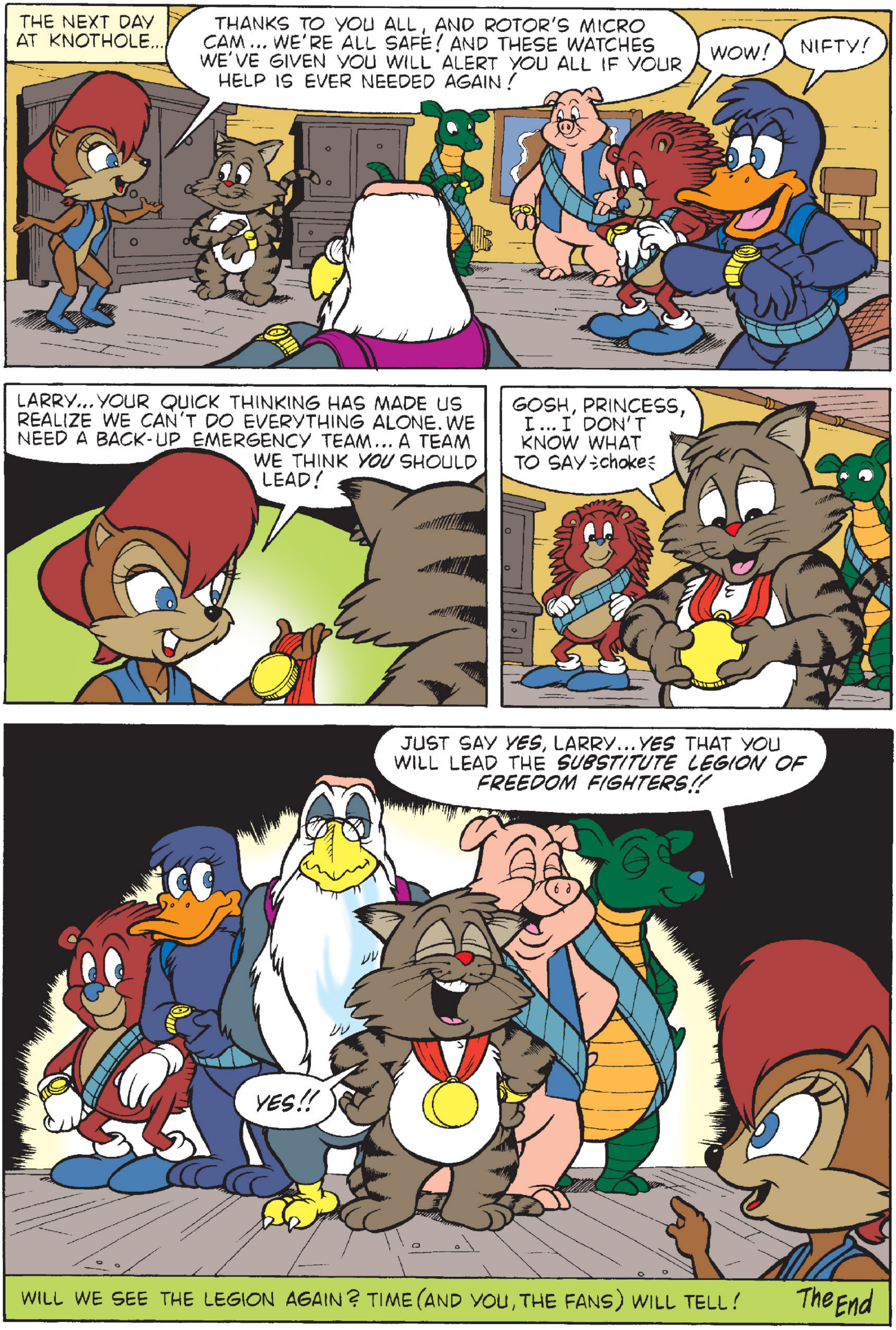

...FOR GOOD! AND WITH THAT ACCURSED HEDGEHOG ALREADY OUT OF MY... ER... *HAIR!*... NO ONE CAN HELP YOU!
HA! HA! HA!
OH NO! WHENEVER I'M AROUND SOMETHING BAD HAPPENS!
WHAT'LL I DO?! WHAT *CAN* I DO? IF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AREN'T ENOUGH TO STOP ROBOTNIK, WHAT COULD I POSSIBLY DO ALONE?
ONE TWO! ONE TWO! LET'S GO, TROOPS! COME ON!
HUH? WHAZZAT?
AND THAT!
TRAINING CAMP?
THAT'S IT!!
?
HELP! HELP!
HEY LOOK... IT'S CYRIL THE EAGLE ALSO FROM #12 *Editor*


PANT...PANT... NEED... HELP.
CALM DOWN, SON! WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY DR. ROBOTNIK! AND HE GOT RID OF SONIC SOMEHOW!
OH MY!
GASP!
WE'VE GOT TO HELP!
YOU'RE RIGHT... BUT HOW?
WE NEED A PLAN!
RIGHT!
THERE'S NO TIME! WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT UP AS WE GO!
WHAT ABOUT THE GUARDS?
ROBOTROPOLIS KEEP OUT!
DON'T WORRY... I'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM!
BUT HOW?
WATCH...


"... AND SEE!"
INTRUDER! *HALT* OR WE WILL SHOOT!
HALT!
HALT!
WHAT THEY SAID.
YEAH, YEAH! GO AHEAD AND SHOOT, TIN CAN!
WHOOPS!
EEP!
ZRAK
PZOW
ZAP
WORKS EVERY TIME!
ZZZZT!
PZOW
CYRIL! FLY OVERHEAD AND SIGNAL IF ALL'S CLEAR.
RIGHT!
A MINUTE LATER...
ALL'S CLEAR! LET'S GO GET 'EM!
CAN YOU OPEN IT, DYLAN?
HMM
PLUCK
I *THINK* SO.
WE'RE IN!
ON YOUR TOES, EVERYONE!


UH-OH!
SWATBOTS! LOTS OF THEM!
INITIATE MANEUVER 12!
CHECK!
NOW!
?
UGH!
UMPH!
WHAM!


A FEW MINUTES LATER
HEY, LOOK! IT'S SONIC!
THAT TEARS IT! NOW I INTEND TO GET REALLY MEAN!
STOP IN YOUR TRACKS, YOU INSIPID HEDGEHOG--
AND THAT ROBOTNIK!
HE'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF FOR NOW! THE OTHERS ARE RIGHT UP AHEAD! LET'S GO!
ZRAAPPT!
ZZZT
ZZZT
AFTER THE BATTLE HAS BEEN WAGED AND WON...
HUH?! L--LARRY? DYLAN?
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW, PRINCESS--
--LET'S FIND SONIC AND MOVE IT OUT!


THE NEXT DAY AT KNOTHOLE...
THANKS TO YOU ALL, AND ROTOR'S MICRO CAM... WE'RE ALL SAFE! AND THESE WATCHES WE'VE GIVEN YOU WILL ALERT YOU ALL IF YOUR HELP IS EVER NEEDED AGAIN!
WOW!
NIFTY!
LARRY... YOUR QUICK THINKING HAS MADE US REALIZE WE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING ALONE. WE NEED A BACK-UP EMERGENCY TEAM... A TEAM WE THINK *YOU* SHOULD LEAD!
GOSH, PRINCESS, I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY ≑choke≑
JUST SAY *YES*, LARRY... *YES* THAT YOU WILL LEAD THE *SUBSTITUTE LEGION OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS!!*
YES!!
WILL WE SEE THE LEGION AGAIN? TIME (AND YOU, THE FANS) WILL TELL!
The End

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